

MINUTES

OF THE

SECOND GENERAL CONFERENCE

OF

THE METHODIST CHURCH,

(Formerly Methodist Protestant,)

HELD AT

PITTSBURGH, PA., MAY 17—27, 1871.

SPRINGFIELD, OHIO:

METHODIST BOOK CONCERN

1871.

quire the employment of a number of *complete* and efficient general agents, whose duty it shall be to canvass fully the entire connection, mainly for the purpose of completing the endowment, but at the same time collecting interest and notes already due, as they may have opportunity without being diverted from their main work. Your committee believe that it would be injudicious to employ general agents to travel extensively for the collection of interest or notes to the Endowment Fund. In many instances the agents' traveling expenses would amount to more than the sum collected.

It is believed that in a majority of instances local agencies for the collection of interest may be established without much, if any, expense to the church. We would therefore recommend that measures be immediately taken to establish such agencies.

There is another subject to which your attention is called. It is well known that considerable controversy has taken place in reference to the transfer of Adrian College to the Methodist Church. The facts in the case are imperfectly understood by many of our people, and your Committee are of the opinion that the publication *by official* action and *authority* of the *official* papers connected with this transfer, would do much to remove misapprehension from many minds, and inspire the Church with greater confidence in the success of our present educational enterprise. We would, therefore, recommend that such an official publication be made.

In conclusion, your committee would congratulate the Conference and the Church at large upon the fact that, in the providence of God, we are permitted to have under our care and control such a noble Institution as Adrian College, where our sons and daughters, under the instruction and watchful care of a competent and accomplished Faculty, may receive the highest education, and be prepared to go forth and bless the world.

JOHN SCOTT, Ch'n.

DOCUMENT P.

ITEM PERTAINING TO EDITORIAL RESPONSIBILITY.

Resolved, That while the Editor should carefully guard the columns of the paper against all improper personalities, offensive epithets and vituperations, that may be occasionally engendered by correspondents amid the heat of controversy—yet, it is our opinion that the liberty of the press, referred to in Article VIII., Section 9, of the Constitution, secures to the several Annual Conferences the right to the publication of such parts of their doings as may be especially forwarded for such purpose.

MINUTES.

First Day--Morning Session.

PITTSBURGH, PA., MAY 17, 1871.

PURSUANT to provision of Discipline, the Ministers and Laymen constituting the Second General Conference of the Methodist Church, assembled for the transaction of business in the First Church, Pittsburgh, Wednesday, May 17, 1871. The Secretary of the previous General Conference, H. B. Knight, called the body to order, when, on motion of Wm. Collier, Francis H. Pierpont, of West Virginia, was elected President pro tem., who called on J. S. Thrap to conduct the opening religious services. Bro. Thrap then read the twelfth chapter of Romans, gave out to be sung the 129th hymn, and led in prayer.

Conference then proceeded to ascertain who were entitled to seats, and appointed C. Gray, H. Cassell and the Secretary, a committee to receive and report on credentials. The committee, after deliberation, reported the following as entitled to seats :

New York District.

Ministers.

J J. SMITH, D. D.,
J. H. ROBINSON.

Laymen.

LEWIS JOHNSON,*
CALVIN TOMKINS.*

Onondaga District.

HOSEA URE,
N. R. SWIFT.

DANIEL EDDY,
PETER WEAVER.

Genesee District.

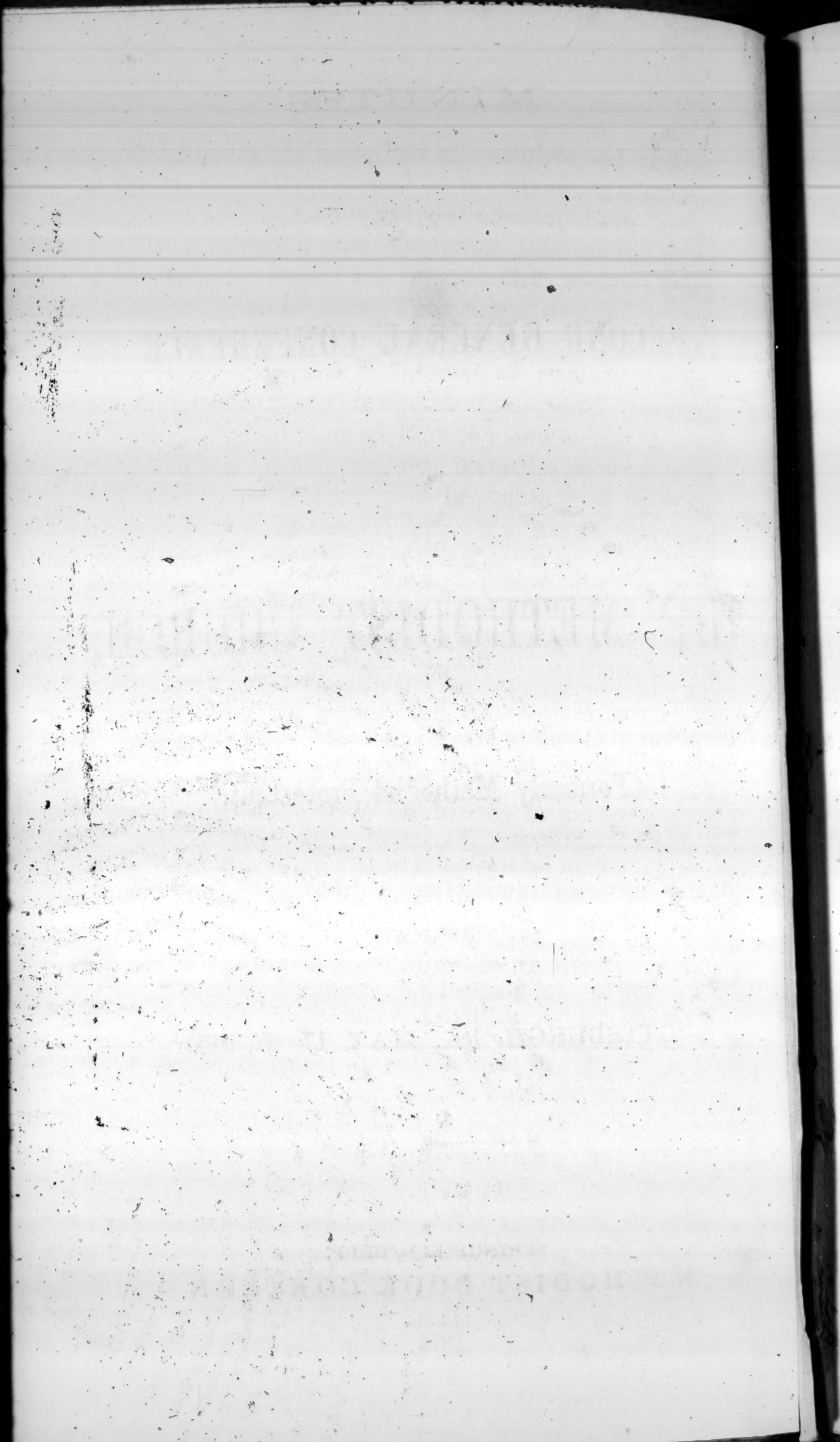
E. A. WHEAT.

ALEXANDER CARY.

New Jersey District.

E. D. STULTZ.

J. M. BROWN.*



North Illinois District.*Ministers.*

W. H. JORDAN,
CORNELIUS GRAY, M. D.

Laymen.

J. R. MULVANE,
RICHARD MOUNT.

South Illinois District.

S. M. GENTRY,
W. M. P. QUINN, M. D.

C. LINK,
GEORGE STOUT.

Iowa District.

WILLIAM REMSBURGH,
W. HUDDLESTON.
A. S. ELLIOTT.

JOHN M. MURPHY,
DAVID PATTERSON,*
J. BARTHOLOMEW.

North Iowa District.

WILLIAM PURVIS, (deceased.) T. B. CARPENTER.

Nebraska District.

JOHN M. YOUNG.*

ALANSON JONES.*

Kansas District.

SAMUEL YOUNG.*

F. W. JOHNSON.*

Missouri District.

WILLIAM MCFARLAND,
A. W. MOTZ.

R. CALVERT,
J. W. BUSH.

North Missouri District.

R. A. BATHURST.

ROBERT WHITE.*

Tennessee and North Georgia District.

WILLIAM J. WITCHER.*

A. S. VINING.*

Those marked with a star (*) were absent.

Report adopted.

Bros. Brown and Collier then suggested that the Conference raise Committees on the following subjects:

1. Legislation; 2. Executive Duties; 3. Judiciary; 4. Boundaries of Conference Districts; 5. Book Concern; 6. Literary Institutions; 7. Fraternal Visitations and Communications; 8. Religious Services; 9. Temperance; 10. Ministerial Education; 11. Methodistic Union; 12. Sunday Schools; 13. Missions, Foreign and Domestic; 14. Publication of Minutes.

On motion of Wm. Collier, the pastors of our churches in this city, Allegheny and Birmingham, were constituted the Committee on Religious Services.

Adjourned. Prayer by C. Springer.

North Carolina District.*Ministers.*

W. M. KERR.

Laymen.

W. A. McCALL.*

Pennsylvania District.

BENJAMIN R. SMITH.

S. BLOES.*

Pittsburgh District.

GEOGRE BROWN, D. D.,

WILLIAM COLLIER, D. D.,

JOHN SCOTT, D. D.,

ALEXANDER CLARK,

PETER T. LAISHLEY, M. D.,

HORACE B. KNIGHT, A. M.

HON.. F H. PIERPONT,

HON. F. H. COLLIER,

G. W. POGUE,

THOMAS F. SCOTT,

BENSON FORDYCE,

WILLIAM RINEHART.

Muskingum District.

JOHN BURNS,

WILLIAM HASTINGS,

E. S. HOAGLAND,

CORNELIUS SPRINGER, D. D.,

JOEL S. THRAP,

J. C. OGLE,

JOSEPH H. HAMILTON.

JOSEPH WELLS,

LEWIS BROWNING,

WILLIAM DEFORD.

HENRY CASSELL,

SAMUEL MOORE,

J. B. HAMILTON,

H. E. H. HARTSOOK.

Ohio District.

W. R. PARSONS,

THOMAS B. GRAHAM,

JONATHAN M. FLOOD, M. D.,

S. B. SMITH,

MARTIN V. B. EUANS.

THOMPSON DOUGLASS,

JAMES M. JOHNSON,

THOMAS J. FINCH,

H. C. HAMILTON,

J. C. MURPHY.

Michigan District.

ASA MAHAN, D. D.,

WILLIAM H. BAKEWELL.

CHESTER COOLEY,*

HARMON OWEN.*

Western Michigan District.

JOHN KOST, L.L. D.

E. WILLIAMS.

Indiana District.

S. M. LOWDEN,

H. STACKHOUSE.

A. D. AMOS,

JOSEPH HALL.

North Indiana District.

J. H. LUSE,

R. HUSSEY.*

E. HALL,*

A. D. WHITFORD.

Preachers' Meeting of Pittsburgh, was referred to Committee on Book Concern.

On motion of Wm. Collier, the following question was referred to the Judiciary Committee:

What relation, if any, does a member or minister with a letter of withdrawal in his hand sustain to the church or Conference of which he was a member?

After giving out notices, Conference adjourned. Prayer by J. M. Flood.

Second Day--Morning Session.

THURSDAY, MAY 18, 1871.

Religious services conducted by N. R. Swift.

The committee to nominate the Standing Committees reported through John Burns, as follows:

1. *On Legislation*.—George Brown, M. V. B. Euans, John Kost, J. Wells, T. B. Carpenter.

2. *Executive*.—C. Gray, E. A. Wheat, T. Douglass.

3. *Judiciary*.—John Burns, E. S. Hoagland, H. Cassell.

4. *Boundaries*.—S. S. Thrapp, E. D. Stults, R. Mount, Wm. McFarland, J. M. Johnson.

5. *Book Concern*.—John Scott, H. Stackhouse, N. R. Swift, C. Link, H. E. H. Hartsock.

6. *Literary Institutions*.—J. J. Smith, J. M. Flood, T. J. Finch, J. R. Mulvane, J. C. Ogle.

7. *Fraternal Visitations and Communications*.—William Hastings, H. Ure, A. D. Whitford, G. Stout, S. M. Gentry.

8. *Temperance*.—B. R. Smith, R. A. Bathurst, J. H. Robinson, W. Hawkins, D. Eddy.

9. *Ministerial Education*.—J. H. Hamilton, T. B. Graham, C. Springer, J. W. Bush, J. B. Hamilton.

Afternoon Session.

Religious exercises conducted by C. Gray.

☐ Took up the order of the day, the election of permanent officers.

Wm. Collier nominated F. H. Pierpont; W. H. Jordan nominated C. Gray, and J. S. Thrapp nominated John Burns. Chair called Dr. Brown to preside.

Whole number of votes cast, 63; necessary to a choice, 32: F. H. Pierpont had 33; C. Gray had 13; John Burns had 15; George Brown had 1; T. B. Graham had 1.

F. H. Pierpont having received a majority of the whole was declared duly elected, and conducted to the chair by Geo. Brown.

The President elect in a few well-timed remarks, tendered his thanks for the honor conferred, suggesting that it was without precedent in this country, so far as he knew, that a layman should occupy the position assigned him.

Proceeded to the election of two Secretaries. H. B. Knight and J. R. Mulvane were then elected.

On motion, Alexander Clark, C. Gray and J. Burns were appointed a committee on Rules of Order.

C. Gray, on behalf of said committee, made report which was read and adopted.

The committees suggested at the morning session were then ordered, and at the request of the chair, a committee of seven to nominate said committees was ordered.

C. Gray, North Illinois Conference; J. J. Smith, New York; George Brown, Pittsburgh; J. W. Bush, Missouri; T. B. Graham, Ohio; Daniel Eddy, Onondaga; John Burns, Muskingum; were elected as said Nominating Committee.

Wm. Collier moved that a special committee on Finance be appointed. Carried. Bros. Collier Murphy and Finch were constituted such committee.

R. A. Bathurst moved that a committee of five on church Extension be appointed.

J. Kost on behalf of himself offered a paper, which was received and referred to the committee of Methodist Union.

A paper offered by Wm. Collier, as a petition from the

Iowa and North Iowa Conferences was submitted by Wm. Remsburgh and referred to Committee on Boundaries.

John Scott asked release from the Committee on Book Concern. Not granted.

Adjourned. Prayer by W. Smith of the M. E. Church.

Afternoon Session.

Religious services conducted by J. J. Smith.

On motion of H. B. Knight, R. Rose, the Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Missions was invited to read his quadrennial Report. (See Appendix, Document b.) Referred to Committee on Missions.

R. Rose also read the final action of the Missionary Board, which on motion, was referred to the Committee on Legislation.

H. Stackhouse on behalf of the Indiana Conference submitted several propositions looking to changes in the Constitution and Discipline. Read and referred to the appropriate committee.

The Book Agent, A. H. Bassett, had leave to read his quadrennial Report. Received and referred to committee on Book Concern. (See Appendix, Document c.)

J. Kost, on behalf of Western Michigan Conference, presented a paper suggesting changes in the Constitution and Discipline. Referred to appropriate committees.

J. M. Flood presented like propositions from Ohio Conference. Also, H. Ure from Onondaga Conference. Read and referred to same committees.

The name of A. S. Elliott, alternate of E. S. Brown, ministerial delegate from Iowa Conference was reported and enrolled.

John Scott presented to the Conference certain papers from the Elm Street Printing Company of Cincinnati, which were read and referred to the committee on Book Concern.

On motion of Wm. Collier, H. B. Knight was added to the committee on Missions.

10. *Methodistic Union*.—W. H. Jordan, W. R. Parsons, A. W. Motz, J. Bartholomew, A. Cary.

11. *Sunday Schools*.—J. H. Luse, W. Remsburgh, W. Rinehart, T. F. Scott, L. Browning.

12. *Missionary*.—Wm. Collier, A. Mahan, W. Huddleston, J. C. Murphy, A. D. Amos, Wm. Kerr, S. M. Lowden.

Instructions from the several Annual Conferences were then called for, and presented, as follows :

J. Kost, on behalf of certain citizens of Adrian, presented a paper regarding the change of place for holding the Conference, which was referred to special committee.

E. S. Hoagland then introduced a proposition for changes, subject to the inquiry as to the power to act thereon. Referred to Executive Committee.

R. Rose, Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Missions, offered through N. R. Swift, a memorial from the North Carolina Mission District. Read and referred to Committee on Missions.

The President then appointed, as a special committee on the subject of the memorial from Adrian, C. Gray, J. J. Smith, and T. F. Scott.

W. R. Parsons offered the following :

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed by the President on Female Ordination in the Methodist Church.

The name of Geo. W. Pogue was ordered enrolled as the alternate of John Redman, deceased, of Pittsburgh District.

The committee on Female Ordination was announced as follows : W. R. Parsons, E. Williams, J. M. Flood, J. J. Smith and J. C. Murphy.

J. S. Thrap, Agent of Adrian College, asked leave and submitted his report of the history and financial condition of said institution during his agency.

Received and referred to the Committee on Literary Institutions. (See Appendix, Document a.)

Wm. Collier moved that a committee on Annual Conference Journals be appointed. Carried. N. R. Swift, H. Cassell and J. H. Robinson constituted such committee.

A paper in reference to the boundary line between the

its removal to Pittsburgh or Cincinnati, conditioned upon the making such proposals thereafter.

Resolved, That we refer the whole question back to the General Conference at its next session, for such action as its wisdom may direct.

Resolved, That while regretting our failure to be able to meet the expectation excited by our appointment, we expect all to rally to a more vigorous support of our weekly organ and the purchase of books published by the Concern.

The President then announced as the special committee on Church Extension, as follows: W. H. Jordan, M. V. B. Euans, R. A. Bathurst, J. W. Bush, W. Hawkins.

On motion of H. B. Knight, the committee on Ministerial Education was instructed to consider the propriety of adding T. H. Colhouer's book to the course of study for under graduates for the ministry.

J. H. Hamilton offered the following:

WHEREAS, The Discipline page 76, under the head of Duties of Trustees," item 5, says: "In case any station or society shall become extinct by deaths, removals, or otherwise, the property," etc.; and,

WHEREAS, The word "extinct" is subject to various constructions in its application to our economy; therefore,

Resolved, That it is important that the Discipline should define precisely what is meant by the term "extinct." Referred to Committee on Legislation.

Wm. Collier, on behalf of the Pittsburgh, R. A. Bathurst, of North Missouri, and J. M. Johnson, of the Ohio, E. D. Stultz, of the New Jersey Conferences, presented propositions for changes of Constitution and Discipline. Read and referred to the appropriate committees.

A paper offered by Geo. Brown and others was read and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

On motion of N. R. Swift, a Committee on Statistics, to consist of three, was constituted, as follows: A. H. Bassett, (honorary) H. C. Hamilton and J. M. Johnson.

A. Mahan and G. B. McElroy were invited to make such reports and statements in regard to Adrian College as they judge desirable for the information of this body.

A communication from the church at East Liverpool, O., was read and referred to the committee on Boundaries.

W. H. Jordan presented a request from North Illinois Conference on the subject of membership. Read and referred to Committee on Legislation.

J. M. Flood presented the action of the Ohio Conference in reference to the removal of the Book Concern by the Commissioners appointed by the last General Conference. Referred to Committee on Book Concern.

The following resolution was offered by J. H. Hamilton, and referred to the appropriate committee, viz:

Resolved, That the committee on Legislation be instructed to inquire whether the change of name from Methodist Protestant to that of Methodist Church, does not require a more particular statement of the steps taken to bring about that change, with the view of more fully assisting in litigations in relation to church property.

On motion of Geo. Brown, F. H. Collier was added to the Judiciary committee.

Adjourned. Prayer by E. A. Wheat.

Third Day--Morning Session.

FRIDAY, MAY 19, 1871.

Religious exercises conducted by W. R. Parsons.

Reports were then called for; when the Commissioners appointed by our previous General Conference, on the subject of the removal of the Book Concern, reported as follows:

WHEREAS, No one of the localities named to us by the General Conference has made any proposals of money or real estate, this Commission as a consideration among others of locating our Book Concern therein; and,

WHEREAS, The Commission could not agree to authorize

between traveling and unstationed ministers. Read and referred to Legislative Committee.

Wm. Collier presented a paper in reference to the Conference relation of Sixth Street Church, Cincinnati. Received and referred to Committee on Boundaries.

M. V. B. Euans, on behalf of himself and J. M. Flood presented the following:

WHEREAS, The good Lord has graciously preserved the Rev. Geo. Brown, D. D., to a good old age to bless the world and the church; and,

WHEREAS, The greater part of his ministerial life has been devoted to the building up of liberal Methodism in this country, even from the very organization of the Methodist (Protestant) Church until now; and,

WHEREAS, We highly esteem and honor him as among the worthy Fathers of our denomination, of ability, whose excellent sayings and sermons should not be lost. Therefore,

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Conference, that we greatly desire to have a volume of his sermons and essays published, and that a committee of two be appointed by the Conference to request the venerable Doctor, if his remaining strength will justify, to prepare and have published a volume of his sermons.

When, on motion, the brethren signing such paper were constituted the committee called for therein.

W. R. Parsons and J. M. Flood offered the following:

That this Conference and its friends in this city and vicinity, meet on Wednesday evening of next week to hold a social union; and that the President name the place and preside. Carried.

It was also voted that the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper be administered on Monday evening in this house, and that Geo. Brown and such others as he may desire to assist, conduct such service.

A paper signed by Wm. Collier and John Scott on the subject of Methodistic Union, was presented, read and referred to the committee on such subject.

J. B. Walker, Corresponding Secretary of the Ministerial Educational Society, on leave then read his quadrennial Report. (See Appendix, Document d.) Referred to the Com-

Propositions from the New York Conference by J. J. Smith for amending Section 6 of Constitution. Read and referred.

Also, a question in regard to licentiates, by Wm. Rems-burgh, of the Iowa Conference.

Also, changes in regard to "form for receiving members," by W. H. Jordan, of the North Illinois Conference.

The Treasurer of the Board of Publication, J. G. Evans, submitted his Report, which was read and referred to Committee on Book Concern. (See Appendix, Document e.)

J. H. Robinson of the New York Conference, submitted an addition to the Second Division of General Conference Rules, the words: "That each support the cause of God as his ability will allow." Referred.

The Committee on Religious Services reported their draft for the Sabbath labors by the members of the Conference, assigning ministers to over forty places of worship.

S. B. Smith, on behalf of the Ohio Conference, offered its action on the subject of church membership. Referred.

J. S. Thrap moved the following:

Resolved, That the Committee on Literary Institutions be and hereby are instructed to nominate the names of fifteen persons to act as Trustees of Adrian College, in place of those whose terms of office expire with the present General Conference.

Referred to Committee on Literary Institutions.

P. Weaver, lay representative of Onondaga Conference, was voted leave of absence from and after present session, on account of death in his family.

Also, A. S. Elliott, of Iowa Conference, on to-morrow.

Adjourned. Prayer by Sister M. A. S. Bradford.

Afternoon Session.

Religious exercises conducted by M. V. B. Euans. Roll called to ascertain the representations of the Conferences respectively.

W. M. Kerr, of the North Carolina Conference, presented the action of his Conference on the subject of distinctions

Afternoon Session.

Religious services conducted by A. W. Motz.

Reports were then called for but none were announced.

P. T. Laishley, through H. B. Knight, presented the following: Can an Annual Conference strike an acceptable itinerant's name from the Conference roll without his consent, by returning him to the unstationed list? H. B. Knight added, When a minister is returned as above, who, if any, one, shall give him a letter of standing in order to connect with a local charge? Referred to Judiciary Committee.

Rev. J. G. Bruce, fraternal delegate appointed by the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church was introduced and invited to an honorary seat.

Took up the papers hitherto presented and on file. No. 1 being a report of Executive Committee. Part first was read relating to the election and ordination of men to the ministry. After some discussion, the portion relating to the giving certificates was laid on the table.

Second part, relating to a change in paragraph 10 of Section 7, of Discipline, page 55 read, and on motion adopted as a substitute, as follows: After the word "examination" in first line (p. 55,) and: "Upon whose recommendation he may be elected by the Annual Conference, and ordained in the interval of Conference, as provided in the Discipline; and provided further that the President shall be chairman of the committee.

Wm. Collier offered a paper from Northern Kansas, which was referred to Committee on Missions. (Above paper was a petition for a new Conference for that section.)

Monday, 2 p. m. was fixed upon as the time to listen to the fraternal delegations from the Methodist Protestant General Conference, and the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Adjourned. Prayer by C. Gray.

Fifth Day-Morning Session.

MONDAY, MAY 22, 1871.

Religious exercises conducted by G. B. McElroy.

Reports of committees were then called for. John Burns,

mittee on Ministerial Education; also, the resolutions accompanying.

Resolutions were presented from the North Carolina Conference on the subjects of Union, Church Name, etc.. Read and referred to appropriate committees.

Adjourned. Prayer by J. L. Simpson.

Fourth Day--Morning Session.

SATURDAY, MAY 20, 1871.

Religious exercises conducted by S. B. Smith.

Reports of committees were called for.

C. Gray, from Executive Committee, submitted that the Discipline, page 70, be changed as to giving certificates to members, and on pages 54 and 55, as to examination and ordination of men, *ad interim* of the Conferences. Adopted.

John Burns, from Judiciary Committee, reported in favor of changes on pages 73-75 of Discipline. Received.

The fraternal delegation from the Methodist Protestant General Conference, Revs. J. T. Murray and Thomas McCormick, were introduced and invited to honorary seats. Also, T. W. Ewing, Book Agent at Baltimore.

Committee on Legislation reported.

N. R. Swift, from Committee on Annual Conference Journals, reported.

A paper submitted by Alexander Clark on the subject of Church Statistics. Read and referred to Committee on Legislation.

H. Stackhouse presented a paper suggesting certain changes in Discipline, by way of questions to be answered in Annual Conferences on passage of pastoral character. Referred to Committee on Legislation.

Notices were then given out, when Conference adjourned. Prayer by J. D. Herr.

raised on behalf of houses of worship, repairs of such, and for current expenses consequent upon worship, shall be controlled by the Board of Trustees of such building, subject to the direction of the members worshipping therein." Adopted.

Committee further reported, that the words "and appoint a prosecutor," be added at end of paragraph 10 of Section 4, page 42. Adopted.

The Judiciary Committee reported the following questions sent up by the North Carolina Conference, with the annexed responses, viz:

1. Has a church the right to receive members into its communion without baptism, who are not willing to receive the ordinance from conscientious scruples? Answer—Yes.

2. Are we to respect all who can not conscientiously receive this ordinance, but otherwise approve our doctrines and government, and desire to be connected with us? Answer—No.

Committee on Legislation further reported through M. V. B. Euans. Received and placed on file.

Also the Committee on Ministerial Education, through J. H. Hamilton. Received and placed on file.

Several questions in the form of a petition from ministers and members outside the General Conference, on the subject of infant baptism and infant church membership were presented and referred the Executive Committee.

Committee on Legislation reported further. Received, discussed, and finally referred to Executive Committee.

Geo. Brown and Wm. Collier were appointed to respond to the delegation from the Methodist Episcopal Church; and Bros. Springer, Bassett and Pierpont to that from the Methodist Protestant General Conference.

Bro. Carpenter offered the following:

WHEREAS, God in his Providence, has seen fit remove by death, prior to its session, Bros. Purvis, of North Iowa Conference, O. R. Carlton, of the Missouri Conference, John Redman, of the Pittsburgh Conference, and Alanson Jones, of the Nebraska Conference, delegates to this General Conference; therefore,

from Executive, reported, 1st. That after the word "church," add, "and that the report of the committee on pastoral relations shall be submitted for its supervision."

2nd. In reply to the question, "Can an Annual Conference strike an itinerant's name from the Conference roll and place him on the unstationed list?" "No."

3rd. Who, if any one, shall give a letter to such as may be returned to unstationed list in order to connect with a local charge? Answer—The Secretary of an Annual Conference.

B. R. Smith, on Temperance, submitted as follows:

WHEREAS, The misery, poverty, degradation and death caused by Intemperance, the great and growing sin of our nation should rouse the church to more vigorous opposition to the accursed traffic in intoxicating drinks. Therefore,

Resolved, That we reaffirm the teaching of Methodism on the iniquitous practice of indulgence in the use of alcoholic liquors, and that we recommend to our preachers every where to use whatever influence they have, both in and out of the pulpit, to lessen and destroy this pest and curse of society, which is destroying our young men and sapping the foundations of our Republic.

Resolved, That it is the duty of the entire membership of our church to so identify themselves with all legitimate efforts put forth in this great and good cause, and to so labor for its success that our church itself shall become what the great founder of our common Methodism designed and labored for, one of the most efficient Temperance organizations in the land.

Report adopted.

Committee on New Hymn Book, through Alexander Clark, reported. Received and referred to a select committee of three, consisting of A. Mahan, T. B. Graham and T. B. Carpenter.

Took up paper No. 2, relating to changes in Section 16 items 1, 2, 3, etc. Read and adopted as follows:

1st. It shall be the duty of the stewards of a station, circuit or mission, to receive and take an exact account of all monies raised for benevolent purposes and for the support of the Gospel; to pay the pastors quarterly, or oftener if necessary, out of funds raised therefor; to meet all contingent expenses including those of the removing of pastor to a charge, and to make, etc., (as now stands.) Add, "All monies

that it be referred back to the committee, with instructions to provide that the General Board shall only work outside of organized Conferences.

Motion of reference was withdrawn and substituted by one to lie on the table, which was carried.

The hour of 3 o'clock to-morrow p. m., was fixed upon to hear the Representatives from the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Wm. Remsburgh, chairman of Committee on Sabbath-schools, reported as follows: (See Appendix, Document g.) Read and filed.

Adjourned. Prayer by J. W. Bush.

Sixth Day--Morning Session.

TUESDAY, MAY 23, 1871.

Religious exercises by J. H. Hamilton.

Suspended the order of the day, the receiving of reports in order to act on the Report on Temperance submitted yesterday. The report was then read and adopted. (See Minutes of yesterday.)

That of the Judiciary Committee in response to the question from North Carolina Conference on the subject of Baptism, was also taken up.

H. B. Knight moved that the answer to the first question be "No," and to the second, "Yes."

The motion to dissent from the answers of the Committee was with the committee's report laid on the table. Report of committee on second question also laid on the table.

On motion, John Cowl, alternate ministerial representative from the Pittsburgh Conference, was awarded the seat of his principal, P. T. Laishley, incapacitated by sickness.

C. Gray, chairman of Executive Committee reported as follows:

Resolved, That this Conference would hereby express its high appreciation of their character and labors, and hereby tenders to their respective Conferences and families, our deep sympathy, in their bereavements. We also trust that in the Great General Conference above, we shall again greet them where those whose robes are washed white in the blood of the Lamb, shall all be finally gathered.

Adopted.

After announcements, Conference adjourned. Prayer by A. S. Elliott.

Afternoon Session.

Religious exercises by J. W. Spring.

A letter from the Methodist Episcopal Preachers' Meeting of Pittsburgh, on the subject of Methodistic Union, was read and referred to Committee on Union.

Took up the Order of the Day, the receiving and replying to the fraternal greetings of the delegates from the Methodist Protestant General Conference, and from the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The Secretary first read a letter from Rev. T. W. Pegram, of North Carolina, one of the delegates of the Methodist Protestant General Conference, excusing and regretting his absence, but breathing cordial good will and fellowship.

Rev. J. T. Murray, of the Maryland Conference, then addressed in person, the greetings of his brethren and himself, and was responded to by own venerable brother, C. Springer, and A. H. Bassett.

Father McCormick, a visiting member of the Maryland Annual Conference, next addressed the Conference, when the President, F. H. Pierpont, responded.

On motion of J. M. Flood, the Conference resolved to appoint five fraternal messengers to the next General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church.

John Scott, John Burns, F. H. Pierpont, A. H. Bassett and H. E. H. Hartsock, were constituted such messengers.

Alexander Clark, C. Gray, J. D. Herr, J. C. Murphy, and J. W. Murphy, were made alternates.

Conference then called for the Report on Missions, which was presented and read by Wm. Collier, chairman. Moved

delegates of Kansas Conference, explaining their absence.
Read and filed.

On motion, adjourned.

Afternoon Session.

Religious exercises conducted by W. M. Kerr.

Committee on Judiciary made a further report, as follows :

Question first: "What relation, if any, does a member or minister with a letter of withdrawal in his hand sustain to the church or Conference of which he was a member?" Answer: None unless the withdrawal is to avoid prosecution. Adopted.

Question second: "To whom is a minister of the Methodist Church responsible for his official conduct who has been left without an appointment by his own Conference, and takes work within the bounds of another District without a certificate of transfer or of removal?" Answer: He is responsible to the Conference of which he is a member. Referred to the Committee on Legislation," with instructions to report what legislation, if any, be necessary on this subject.

Took up report of Committee on Legislation.

Recommendation No. 1, was read, viz: To substitute the word "sin" in 5th line, for the word "guilt." Adopted. (See Art. of Religion, page 25.)

Recommendation 2, Add to paragraph 2, of Sec. 17 page 75: "If it be deemed necessary, good moral men from without, may be elected Trustees. But a majority of the Board shall in all cases be members of the church." Adopted.

Took up the Order of the day," receiving the fraternal greetings of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church through Revs. J. G. Bruce and S. M. Merrill.

The commission of these brethren was then read as also the general instructions under which they were to act.

Bros. Bruce and Merrill, were then respectively introduced to the Conference by the President, who respectively addressed us. On behalf the Conference they were responded to by Geo. Brown and Wm. Collier, as per appointment.

Conference then sang the long metre doxology, standing.

1. In answer to the first question submitted, "What relation do the baptized children of our members sustain to the church?" Answer: they should be recognized as probationary members in and under the watchcare of the church, to be received to full membership upon profession of faith.

2. Should a minister baptize the children of parents not members of any church? Answer, "Yes, if believers in the Christian religion."

3. "If such are baptized. what relation do or should they sustain to the church?" Answered same as No. 1.

4. "Is it proper for a minister to re-baptize an adult who was baptized in infancy, but is not satisfied with his baptism?" Answer in our opinion, it is of doubtful propriety.

5. "Should infant classes be formed in churches?" If so by whom and how may suitable leaders be secured for them?" "Yes," to first. Second, by pastors and Sabbath-school Superintendents. These questions and answers (No. 5,) laid on the table. All further questions (No. 6 and 7,) with answers, also laid on the table.

Committee on Book Concern, by its chairman, John Scott, reported. Read and made the order of the day for to-morrow morning, at 9 o'clock.

C. Link as a minority of one of Book Concern Committee, made an additional report, subject to same action as the above.

Committee on memorial from Adrian, Michigan, through C. Gray, Chairman, reported. Laid on the table.

Suspended the regular order of the day, in order to take up the Report of the Committee on Ministerial Education. Report read by chairman and ordered considered item by item. Took up preamble, when J. B. Walker was assigned the floor.

On motion, said preamble was referred to a special committee of three, consisting of J. M. Flood, S. B. Smith, and Wm. Rinehart.

The balance of the report was then laid on the table until the special committee as above report.

A letter was then read from S. Young and F. W. Johnson,

Took up report on Book Concern, the minority one being read as follows:

"I regret, exceedingly, the necessity that seems to drive me to the unpleasant duty of making a minority report. With due respect to the wisdom and judgment of my beloved brethren, the other members of the committee, who doubtless have considered the task assigned us, with candor and prayerfully, and who accord to me the same, I would respectfully offer the following:

"In view of the increasing facilities for mailing our matter, the constantly increasing population and valuation of property in Springfield, the present site of our Book Concern—add to these the facts that first, we are not in debt for our property; and, second, that as far as I can learn, we are under promises made by our agents, to the citizens of Springfield, that it was to be a permanent institution among them, I recommend that it remain where it is.

"C. LINK, *Minority Committee.*"

After some discussion the question arising, "In whom is the fee of the Book Concern." The further consideration of the report was suspended and the question raised, referred to a special committee, consisting of C. Gray, John Scott, H. E. H. Hartsock, J. M. Flood, and J. M. Johnson.

Committee on Methodist Union, through W. H. Jordan, reported. Took up the report item by item. Items one and two read and adopted. Item three read and referred back to the committee. Item four read and adopted. Item five read, when, on motion, paragraph four was stricken out and amendments made, when said item five was adopted.

The same committee presented as a supplementary paper, the following:

WHEREAS, Certain resolutions touching Methodist Union came to this body from the Methodist Episcopal Preachers' Meeting of this city; therefore,

Resolved, That this General Conference kindly recognize and fully reciprocate the Christian spirit and brotherly regard manifested toward us, and that we unite with them in the desire, that the day may not be far distant, when the union of the entire Methodist family may be practicable for all parties.

The further consideration of the report of the Committee on Legislation was laid on the table, in order to hear the Report the on Female Ordination, which was read by the chairman, W. R. Parsons. After giving out notices, adjourned with prayer by S. M. Merrill, editor the *Western Christian Advocate*, Cincinnati.

Seventh Day--Morning Session.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 1871.

Religious exercises conducted by A. S. Elliott.

Executive Committee made a further report.

M. V. B Euans, from special committee, to confer with Geo. Brown in regard to preparing a volume of sermons and essays, made Report of their correspondence with Geo. Brown and his reply, consenting to undertake the service, as he desires to serve the church in some way, as long as he lives, and expressing the belief that if life and health are continued, he will be able to furnish the volume for publication within one year.

Approved and adopted.

Executive Committee further reported that Discipline, page 55, paragraph 12, be altered, last line after the word "Christianity," add—"As held by the Methodist Church."

Adopted.

On page 66, Sec. XI., paragraph 1, add words, "To read and explain such portions of the Constitution and Discipline as they may deem necessary to give our people suitable information in regard to our ecclesiastical economy." Adopted.

Special Committee on Ministerial Education, reported.

Legislative Committee made a further report.

Committee on Conference Boundaries reported.

In view of the above considerations, we recommend that this collection be published under the direction of this Conference, and by the Conferences, commended to our churches.

A. MAHAN, Ch'n.

Read and adopted.

Committee on Methodistic Union reported item 5; amended and then laid upon the table.

Bro. Gray then offered a substitute, which was discussed and laid on the table. The item, as revised by the Committee, was voted on and adopted. (See appendix f).

Took up Report of Committee on Legislation. To Sec. 13 Item 1, add after word "resignation" the words "or otherwise," and then erase all after the word "otherwise."

Adopted.

Page 37, Sec. 20, after the word "rules" in the last line add the following:

"Persons whose names are on the Church Record, and can not be found, or have ceased altogether to take an interest in the church, may be dropped from our record by a vote of the church." Adopted.

Page 76, Sec. 18, Item 5, erase the words "become extinct" and substitute the following: "Have lost its organization."

Adopted.

Add to Sec. 6, as Item 1, page 45, the following as part 1: "The quarterly Conference shall be called to order by the pastor, when present, who shall preside, provide the conference may appoint some other person to preside, when it shall judge it necessary. The conference shall be opened by reading a portion of Scripture and prayer. The first quarterly conference shall elect a Secretary, whose term of office shall continue until the election of his successor the succeeding year. One third of all the members in stations, and one sixth in circuits shall constitute a quorum." Adopted.

Page 16, Item 5, we recommend that the words *houses of worship* be substituted for *meeting houses*, and add after houses of worship, *or parsonages*.

Page 73, add to Sec. 16, making it No. 1, the following: The "Stewards in circuits, missions and stations, shall be

2. That we request the Preachers' Meeting of the Methodist Church in this city to return this, our friendly greeting, to the Methodist Episcopal Preachers' Meeting of this city.

W. H. JORDAN, *Chairman.*

Adjourned. Prayer by W. H. Jordan.

Afternoon Session.

Religious exercises conducted by H. Urc.

Took up papers on file. A further report from Legislative Committee, Read and referred back.

Committee on Hymn Book reported as appended:

The committee to examine and report on new hymn book submitted to this body for approval by the Compiling Committee, reported as follows:

The committee to whom the subject of the new hymn book, which has been prepared by a committee appointed by the last General Conference beg leave to report:

1. The classification of the hymns under different topics is in our judgment, more perfect and complete than obtains in any other hymn book with which we are acquainted.

2. The arrangement of the hymns under these topics has been made with great care, and is characterized by much discrimination and good taste. In the two particulars above named, this collection, in our judgment, stands without a rival.

3. The poetic taste manifested in the collection of hymns is equally marked. No hymns of an approved character are wanting in this collection and very few are inserted which good taste would reject.

4. No hymn book with which we are acquainted presents to the preacher such facilities for the selection of hymns appropriate to any subject on which he may have occasion to treat as this collection. The same holds as an aid to readers in enabling them to contemplate and appreciate the subject matter of our hymns.

5. The number of hymns pertaining to Sabbath-schools, we judge, should be very considerably increased.

6. Before the work is published, we recommend that a considerable number of pieces for chanting should be added.

That while we accord to woman a wider range of influence in society; a more delicate and refined sociability; a more enduring patience, deeper affection, superior gentleness, and a sweeter temper than belongs to the sterner sex, and which so pre-eminently fit her for that important sphere to which she has been assigned by God as a fit companion and help meet to man. And while we yield to none in our admiration of woman's excellences, talents, usefulness and undoubted merit as developed under the enlarged sphere of her activities in the present age; and while we most gladly hail and welcome whatever may tend to elevate and honor her in social life, and that will tend to justly enlarge her field of usefulness in society, and while we say nothing against her exercising her talents if need be in public exhortation or even preaching the word, yet we hold that the ordination of females should not be authorized by the General Conference, for the following reasons :

1. Because of the doubtful expediency to say the least, of a denomination so young as ours, and comparatively small, introducing or sanctioning at this juncture so questionable an ecclesiastical innovation upon the universal practice and policy of all Christendom.

2. Because there is not a single passage in the word of God, our only rule upon the subject, that unmistakably warrants the proposed measure.

3. Because it is in open antagonism with the practice of Christ and his apostles, so far as their practice had any bearing on this subject.

4th, and lastly, Because, as we believe, it would come in direct conflict with the teachings of inspiration in 1 Cor. xiv : 34, 35, and the qualifications of a Bishop, as set forth in the third chapter of 1st Tm. Therefore,

Resolved, That we deem it unadvisable to authorize or sanction so radical a change in our ecclesiastical organism as proposed by the advocates of the ordination of females, a change so essentially at war with the entire structure of our Book of Discipline as would render many other changes absolutely necessary, thereby acquiring much additional legislation to harmonize various portions of our Discipline with such a measure.

elected in their respective places of election (see Constitu-
tion, page 20) sometime in the last quarter in the year, also to
hold a financial meeting as soon as practicable after the rise
of the ensuing Annual Conference to ascertain the pastors sal-
ary, moving expenses, and house rent, if any, and apportion
the proper part of the same to be paid by the classes subject
to ratification by the quarterly conference. The steward,
then, of the respective classes may, assisted by the leader,
proceed to raise their apportionment in the following plan:

FINANCIAL PLAN.

[illegible]

Adopted.

Wm. Collier, from Committee on Finance, reported as follows, which, on motion, was adopted, viz:

The Committee to whom was referred the matter of Finance, beg leave to report as follows: That not having any very definite idea of what the General Conference would expect of them by way of a financial plan, suggests, that to the Annual Conference properly belongs the duty of adopting such measures as will be efficient in securing the necessary funds to support the various institutions of the church.

J. J. Smith, from the Committee on Ordination of Ladies, submitted a minority report as follows:

Committee on Judiciary reported the following amendment to Constitution: Par. 2 of Sec. 2, Art. 4, add at end of such par. the words, "For its supervision." Adopted.

On motion of Bro. Knight, the words "in the following manner, and to the following extent," be stricked out.

Carried.

Also that paragraph 2 of Sec 2 as now printed be Sec. 3., and Sec. 3 as now printed, be Sec. 4. Adopted.

Bro. Wheat for himself and Bro. Clark offered the following:

Recognizing the Holy Scriptures as the only all-sufficient and infallible rule of faith and conduct among men, we hold them as the only safe and permanent chart of human rights, civil or ecclesiastical. And we regard every attempt to abridge their circulation among the people, or to drive them from our institutions of learning, as a direct stab at the dearest interests of society, and the most sacred rights of our being.

Resolved, Therefore, that we regard it the highest duty of every citizen to encourage and maintain the free and unrestricted circulation and use of the Bible among all classes, and especially in the primary institutions of learning in our country.

Adopted.

Judiciary Committee further reported on the Petition from North Carolina Conference on the subject of using "Carnal Weapons" in war. Answer—We recommend no legislation by the Conference. Adopted.

We also recommend that on page 37 of Discipline, at the end of the 2d paragraph on Covenants, there be added in parenthesis the following: "(This last above paragraph is the portion of the covenant to be taken by persons joining on certificate, and the usual response also to follow.)"

Adopted.

Also to add to item 25, page 60, Sec. 7, the following: No minister or preacher in good health shall be left without regular ministerial work more than two years in succession. He shall at the end of that time resume his itinerant labors, or may transferred to the unstationed list.

GEO. BROWN.

Received and made the order of the day this afternoon, after Conference opens.

Adjourned. Prayer by Bro. Robison.

Eighth Day--Morning Session.

THURSDAY, May 25, 1871.

Religious services conducted by Bro. Remsburg.

Took up paper from Legislative Committee. First question as to responsibility of preachers laboring without the bounds of their Conference. Answer—Not adopted; laid on the table.

Second part referred back to said Committee for framing a disciplinary rule.

On the subject of "Wesley's General Rules," the Committee reported that no action was necessary, as all variations from Mr. Wesley's draft were to conform such draft to other disciplinary provisions and present moral issues.

Adopted,

As to the restoration of the "Order of Deacon," asked for by the Onondaga Conference, the Committee reported *adversely*. Adopted.

On the motion from the North Carolina Conference touching the assumed distinction between stationed and unstationed elders, the committee reported *adversely* to action on our part, as according to Elementary Principles. Paragraph 6, "All elders are equal as to order." Report adopted.

W. Collier, by permission, stated that the family of the late Rev. A. Shinn had committed to him the manuscripts of this deceased brother, to do with as he deemed best. He invited suggestions.

Conference voted that Dr. Collier be requested to prepare for publication such portion thereof as he judges best in connection with a new edition of the "Plan of Salvation."

1. At the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, held in Steubenville, Ohio, May, 1854, an arrangement was made, authorizing the Northern and Western Conferences to organize a Book Concern and receive their quota of the property and money then held by the whole church at Baltimore, Maryland.

2. A Convention was held in Zanesville, Ohio, in November, 1854, which appointed a Literary and Publishing Society to receive our quota from the Baltimore Concern, and invest it for the benefit of the Northern and Western Conferences, which investment was partly made by purchasing of Rev. A. H. Bassett the *Western Recorder*, its subscription list and appurtenances, and locating our publishing business at Springfield, Ohio.

3. The Convention held at Springfield, Ohio, in 1858, continued the publishing interests at the present location.

4. The Literary Society above named became incorporated in 1855 through a board of its own appointment according to the laws of Ohio, under the name and style of the Board Trust of the Western Methodist Protestant and Book Concern.

5. Said Board of Trust, in June, 1859, proceeded to raise subscriptions, purchase a lot, and erect buildings thereon, which subscriptions were raised in part in the city of Springfield, and in part from the whole church, or such portions of it as were reached.

6. The Committee find that the Board of Trust received from the Baltimore Concern, \$2,300; from the City of Springfield, \$1,500; from the Ohio Conference outside of Springfield, \$5,940; from other Conferences, \$3,000; for book bindery, \$3,500, making in all, \$16,260 for buildings, presses and other purposes.

5. We find that the said Board of Trust is by law elected by the General Conference, and is therefore the creature of the General Conference, and may sell the property held by it when directed to do so by the said General Conference; now, therefore,

Resolved, That the said Board be, and is hereby instructed to sell

In reference to the subject suggested by Wm. Remsburg, relating to the question whether a preacher unordained may be liable to arrest in the Annual Conference for performing the marriage ceremony for persons in States where the civil laws admit it. Your Committee report that in their opinion no legislation is needed; but would recommend the passage of the following resolution, to be entered upon the Minutes:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Conference, that no unordained preacher's character should be liable to arrest in the Annual Conference for performance of civil acts, not immoral, and which are authorized by State law where they reside.

Took up the Report of Committee on Annual Conference Journals read and re-ferred to the Committee.

Report on Missions was called up, read, and acted on item by item. Item 1 amended and adopted. Item 2 laid on the table.

Items 3 and 4 amended and adopted. Item 5 read and adopted.

Pending the further consideration of this subject, notices were given out, and Conference adjourned.

Prayer by Alexander Clark.

Afternoon Session.

Religious exercises conducted by Bro. Bathurst.

The order of the day was postponed, and consideration of Report of Committee on Missions was resumed. Item 6 read and adopted; item 7 read and adopted; item 8, after amendment and substitution, was laid upon the table; also the general subject.

Took up the order of the day—the subject of Female ordination.

On motion, the Minority Report taken up, but again laid on the table, in order to take Report of Committee on Fee of Book Concern.

J. Scott read the majority report as follows: The Committee to whom was referred the subject of the title which this General Conference has to the Book Concern and property connected with it, located in Springfield, Ohio, submit the following:

B. Fordyce, J. C. Murphy, L. Browning, W. Deford, H. Cassell, S. Moore, J. B. Hamilton, J. R. Mulvane, R. Mamt, C. Link, G. Stout, Alexander Cary, E. Williams, J. W. Murphy, J. W. Bush, W. Hawkins, T. Doughlass,—16.

Nayes—Geo. Brown, W. R. Parsons, J. M. Flood, E. S. Hoagland, W. Huddleston, A. S. Elliott, J. H. Luse, A. W. Mots, A. Mahan, F. H. Pierpont, Wm. Rinehart, J. M. Johnson, H. C. Hamilton, H. E. H. Hartsock, J. Bartholomew, A. D. Amos, J. Hall—17.

Took up the Report of Committee on Annual Conference Journal. Read, and re-referred to the Committee.

Report of Missions was called up, read and acted on item by item. Item 1 amended and adopted; item 2 laid on the table; item 3 and 4 read, amended, and adopted.

Item 5 read and adopted. Pending the further consideration of this subject, notices were given out, and Conference adjourned.

Prayer by Alexander Clark.

Ninth Day--Morning Session.

FRIDAY, May 26, 1871.

Religious services conducted by sister M. A. S. Bradford.

Conference took up report on Missions. Item 8, as presented by Committee, was then re-read and adopted; item 9 amended and adopted.

Bro. Robinson offered, and Conference adopted the following:

Resolved, That there be annually, on the 1st day of May, of each year, a report publishing of all items of income and expenses of the General Board, and that every person subscribing five dollars a year

the property held by them in trust for the church and used for publishing purposes, provided this General Conference shall see proper to locate the Book Concern and Publishing Interests elsewhere than in Springfield.

After being read, laid on the table.

J. M. Flood, on behalf of a minority of said special Committee, reported as follows:

The undersigned, with due respect to the views of the majority of the Committee appointed to consider the subject of the title the General Conference has to the Book Concern and property, would respectfully submit that in view of all the facts in our possession, the undersigned fail to see how it is possible, first, for this General Conference to order the sale of our Publishing House in Springfield, and removing it from that place without the clearest possible violations of plighted faith, and of pledges and promises officially given; second, it can not fail to be attended with most serious disaster to the whole church, and further serious loss will necessarily be suffered except it can be accomplished in a spirit of conciliation and compromise of views and interests which it is most devoutly hoped and prayed may be the spirit and temper of this body. Very respectfully submitted.

Read and laid on the table.

Resumed order of the day, Female Ordination. Bro. Hoagland spoke in favor. Dr. Maham moved that speeches be confined to ten minutes. Carried. Report of majority was read. Bro. Stackhouse, on motion to adopt minority report spoke in favor, and Dr. Mahan against a motion to strike out the reference to 1 Cor. xiv: 34, 35, on grounds of *exegesis*. After several had spoken to the amendment it was withdrawn. The main question was then put, and on motion of Dr. Flood, by ayes and noes, with the following result:

Ayes, W. Collier, John Scott, Alexander Clark, P. T. Laishley, H. B. Knight, T. B. Graham, S. B. Smith, M. V. B. Uuans, John Burns, Wm. Hastings, C. Springer, J. S. Thrap, J. H. Hamilton, W. H. Jordan, C. Gray, E. A. Wheat, S. M. Lowden, H. Stackhouse, N. R. Swift, W. McFarland, B. R. Smith, E. D. Stultz, W. H. Bakewell, R. A. Bathurst, J. J. Smith, J. H. Robinson, F. H. Collier, T. F. Scott, G. W. Pogue,

On motion of Wm. Collier, the work of S. Wakefield, D. D., on Systematic Theology, was adopted as a text book for candidates for the ministry, and ordered inserted in Discipline.

Alexander Clark offered the following:

WHEREAS, The Editor of the **METHODIST RECORDER** has been greatly assisted in his work by the articles from time to time by the editorial contributors, W. H. Jordan, J. J. Smith, D. S. Stephens, G. B. McElroy, and James Robison. Therefore,

Resolved, That this General Conference do hereby recognize the valuable services of these brethren, and extend thanks to them for their gratuitous services.

Adopted.

E. A. Wheat presented the following, which was read and adopted:

WHEREAS, A portion of the members of the Committee on Publishing Interests have been intimately connected with our publishing operations, and feel a personal delicacy in reference to its doings; therefore,

Resolved, That this General Conference hereby declares its high appreciation of the labors of John Scott and Alexander Clark, in the editorial management of our church periodicals, the **METHODIST RECORDER** and *Sunday School Recorder*, and that these brethren have been eminently successful in conducting these periodicals to the credit of the church and the satisfaction of this body.

2. That our confidence in the long-tried integrity of the Publishing Agent, A. H. Bassett, remains unshaken; and we hereby declare our unanimous approval of his management of the Concern.

Committee on Literary Institutions, through J. J. Smith, reported as follows:

Your Committee on Literary Institutions would most respectfully report in part, as follows:

We find by examination that there are fifteen vacancies on this College Board of Trustees, occasioned by limitation, and one by death, making in all sixteen vacancies to be filled. We therefore, recommend the following named persons as suitable to fill the aforesaid vacancies: Norman Geddes, J. J. Amos, A. H. Bassett, J. J. Gillespie, A. Mahan, J. R. Mulvane, R. H. Marshall, John Kost, John Burns, J. J. Smith. J.

may get such report, and all subscribing one dollar a year, get such report of the mission work within the bounds of his own Conference.

The report, as a whole, was then re-committed to a special committee of three for harmonic revision, consisting of W. Hastings, C. Gray and H. Stackhouse.

Sister Bradford, on leave, addressed the Conference in reference to the subject disposed of yesterday, and her experience as a laborer.

Bro. Parsons offered the following :

Resolved, That each Annual Conference shall have power to authorize females to preach the Gospel in the Methodist Church.

The Report on Sabbath-schools was then taken up and read by the Chairman, Bro. Remsburg. Report adopted and the Committee provided for therein ordered, viz: on Constitution, J. H. Robinson, T. F. Scott and Wm. Remsburg. On Catechism: John Scott, Alexander Clark and Wm. Collier, with power to publish in the interim of General Conference. (See Appendix g.)

Took up Report (Majority) of Soecial Committee on Book Concern. Read, when a motion to adopt was made. The Minority Report was also read.

An amendment to the majority report was effered by Bro. Thrap, which, after being seconded, was voted on and lost.

Previous question was moved and sustained. A division of the question was also called for, viz: on adopting so much of the report as is contained in Sec. 7. Chair ruled the call for a division of report was out of order. An appeal was taken, but the chair was sustained and main question carried by a vote of 28 to 26.

Took up the Report of the Committee on Book Concern. Read by the chairman, John Scott. Ordered to be considered item by item. Item one, read and adopted; when, on motion, Conference adjourned to meet at 1½ o'clock, p. m.

Prayer by C. Springer.

Afternoon Session.

Religious exercises by E. S. Hoagland.

On motion, A. H. Bassett was recognized as Representative in place of M. V. B. Euans, from Ohio Conference.

less, we believe he has accomplished as much as could have been expected under the circumstances.

J. J. SMITH, *Chairman.*

NOTE.—J. M. Flood dissented from the majority, in reducing the number of Trustees of the Board of Adrian College.

On motion, all discussions during the sessions were limited to ten minutes.

Resumed consideration of the Report of majority of Committee on Book Concern, which was read as follows:

Your committee to whom was referred the interests of the Book Concern, have had the same under serious consideration, and respectfully beg leave to report:

1. That they are gratified with the exhibit of the Publishing Agent, and of the Treasurer of the Board of Publication. These documents show that the business of the Concern has been so conducted as not only to meet current expenses, but also to leave a small balance in the Treasury. It appears, also, that the property held by the Board for the church, has steadily increased in value, and is now worth from two to three times its original cost. The assets of the Concern are estimated at 23,500, while its liabilities are given as being but \$700.

2. The subject of the removal of the Book Concern to some other locality, in reference to which several papers were referred to your committee, has received careful attention; and, after mature deliberation, we respectfully recommend that the Book Concern be removed from Springfield, Ohio, its present location, as in the judgment of your committee, said location is not an advantageous one for the successful prosecution of the publishing business. Its telegraphic news is meager, its mail facilities insufficient, causing delay in receiving news, and also in sending out our papers to subscribers. The materials necessary for carrying on a publishing business must be ordered from a distance, involving additional cost, and often delay; being an interior city, advertisements of a proper character are difficult to obtain, and only at low rates; and it affords almost no advantages for carrying on a local book trade.

S. Thrap, J. B. Walker, N. R. Swift, W. M. Hamilton, H. Stackhouse, J. H. Claney. J. A. Claney being nominated to fill the unexpired term of John Redman, who has been removed by death.

We would also recommend to the Board of Trustees in view of the large expense incurred yearly in the assembling of the Board for the transaction of its necessary business, that they, the Trustees be, and they are hereby advised to take the necessary steps as soon as possible, to reduce their number to twenty, by dropping five of their number from among the class whose term of office expires in 1875, and five from the class whose term expires in 1879, and further, that the President of the College be a member of the Board, *ex officio*, thereby making the Board to consist of *twenty-one*.

Your committee would also state that they are well pleased with the financial aspects and condition of the College as set forth in the Report of J. S. Thrap, from which it appears that the assets of the Institution, over all its liabilities, amount to \$262,492 96.

From testimony had before the committee, we also learn that the reputation of the College, in reference to its permanency and further success is steadily gaining ground among the citizens of Adrian.

We would not disguise the fact that it will need, as it undoubtedly deserves, our strict attention and untiring efforts as a denomination, to place it financially, among the strong Colleges of our land.

Among the appliances that are absolutely necessary, looking in this direction, we believe there is not a single one more indispensable than an efficient agency. Much has already been accomplished through this channel, and our success in the future must very much depend upon our College Agent.

We wish to say in this connection, that we believe that J. S. Thrap has been untiring in his efforts to render his agency efficient and successful during his past term, and although he may not always have succeeded to the entire satisfaction of himself and others in meeting the demands and responsibilities of his office in the collection of monies; yet neverthe-

its vicinity, for the welcome and cordial entertainment of this Conference.

Adopted by a rising vote.

On motion, Conference went into the election of Editor and Book Agent; J. H. Hamilton and G. Stout being designated to act as tellers.

The vote was ordered to be taken separately, that for Editor being first. On canvassing the ballot, Alexander Clark received 41 of the 49 votes cast, and was declared duly elected.

For Book Agent, the first ballot gave H. B. Knight, 22; A. H. Bassett, 20; James Robison, 6; A. H. Lowrie, 1. H. B. Knight withdrew his name, when A. H. Bassett, on second ballot, was declared elected.

The following persons were then elected as the Board of Publication: I. W. McKeever, Wm. Morrison, Wm. Collier, Wm. J. Troth, John Burns, Robert H. Marshall, Wm. Rinehart.

On motion, Conference adjourned. Prayer by J. M. Johnson.

Evening Session.

Religious exercises conducted by. Bro. Bartholomew.

N. R. Swift of Committee on Conference Journals, submitted a report, as follows:

WHEREAS, Our Discipline makes no provision for the presence and examination of the Annual Conference Journals, at and by the General Conference; and,

WHEREAS, (Probably for the want of such provision,) but six Conferences have forwarded their Journals, viz: New York, Onondaga, Genesee, Pittsburgh, Muskingum and Iowa.

Therefore, we respectfully report, First, that we find no error in the Records of said Conferences.

Secondly: We find that the Genesee, Onondaga, and Iowa Conferences have clothed their delegates to this General Conference with full Conventional powers, in view of making such Constitutional changes as might be deemed requisite.

3. Your committee respectfully recommend Pittsburgh, as in their judgment, the most suitable place for the location of our Book Concern. It has all the necessary means for carrying on a successful publishing business; being a great railroad and telegraphic center, it possesses excellent facilities for receiving and sending out our papers and books to all parts of the country, with dispatch; our church being here strong in numbers and in wealth, our Publishing Interests would be placed among those who have both the disposition and the ability to foster and sustain them; with a membership of some two thousand in and immediately around the city, a large local book trade could soon be established, yielding a handsome margin of profit; advertisements of a suitable character, and at remunerative rates, could easily be obtained, while the circulation of our papers could be, no doubt, very largely increased.

4. Your committee further recommend that this General Conference requires the Board of Publication, at the earliest practicable period, and in the safest and most judicious manner, to carry out the preceding recommendations, say October 15, 1871.

JOHN SCOTT, *Chairman.*

After report was read, a motion was made to substitute Cincinnati for Pittsburgh, in item 3, and the ayes and noes thereon called for. Lost by 18 for to 29 against. Chicago was also proposed, but lost, when the item as reported by the committee, and above given, was adopted.

Item 4, as originally reported, was laid on the table.

Item 5, now item 4, after being amended by adding the words, "say, by October 15, 1871," was adopted, and then the report as a whole, as above given.

J. H. Robinson, from Committee on Constitution for Sabbath-schools, reported. Read and laid on the table.

Conference voted, that when it adjourn, it be to meet again at 7 o'clock.

E. A. Wheat offered the following:

That the thanks of this Conference be, and hereby are tendered to the pastors, brethren and friends of Pittsburgh and

as revised by special committee, and introduced by J. M. Flood. Acted on item by item.

Preamble read and adopted. Recommendation 1, read and adopted; 2, amended and adopted; 3, read and stricken out; 4, read and adopted; 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12, read and adopted; and then the Report as a whole, as follows:

We acknowledge, with gratitude to God, whatever of success has attended this work, and would express our full confidence in the Board having this interest under its supervision, believing they have done what they could to sustain and advance its interests. We also express our confidence in the Corresponding Secretary, J. B. Walker, who we regard as having honestly and faithfully represented this interest before the church.

Your committee find that during the quadrennial period that has elapsed since the meeting of the General Conference of 1867, there has been collected from all sources, \$21,699 82; and the total expenditures for the same time has been \$19,009 23; leaving in hands of the Treasurer, \$2,861 59. There are debts not canceled amounting to nearly \$2,000, which leave in the hands of the Treasurer, after meeting all liabilities, something over \$600.

A permanent fund has been commenced by the generous contributions of Bros. James Hicks and Daniel H. Horne, (now deceased,) of Cincinnati, Ohio, amounting to \$2,500; and by the sale of Allegheny Seminary, owned by the Pittsburgh Conference, the interest on \$7,000, the result of such sale, has been regularly paid to the Board, and we would sincerely hope that it will soon be the pleasure of the Pittsburgh Conference to place in the hands of the Board, this amount, as it would increase by so much, the permanent fund.

We present the following recommendations:

1. That the Discipline, paragraph 8, Section XII., page 69, be made to read as follows: "To present the interests of the Educational Board, and take up subscriptions for the same, during the month of December, each year, in all their congregations, which subscriptions they shall forward as prompt-

Thirdly: We find that said Conferences, in connection with Pittsburgh, Muskingum, and New York, have given their delegates special instructions with regard to certain changes desired in our Book of Discipline. All of said desired changes we believe have been presented, and passed to the respective committees on revision of the Book of Discipline. We would further say, that the Genesee, Onondaga, New York, and Iowa Conferences, have concurred in a resolution of the New Jersey Conference recommending action as to Article VI., Section 2, of the Constitution.

Fourthly: In view of the Disciplinary omission, alluded to in the Preamble of this Report, your committee would recommend the insertion in our Book of Discipline, Section 7, sub-paragraph 14, page 63, the following—"and forward its Journal, for reference and examination, to said Conference."

N. R. SWIFT, *Chairman.*

Adopted.

H. B. Knight, Alexander Clark, and A. A. Bassett, were constituted a committee to edit the Discipline as revised by this Conference.

S. B. Smith moved that in publishing the Minutes of the General Conference, after the words, 'The Methodist Church,' on title page, there be added in parenthesis—(formerly Methodist Protestant); and that the several Annual Conferences number their sessions as if no change of name had occurred." This was adopted.

On motion of W. H. Jordan, Section 2, Article VII, of the Constitution, was so changed, that after word "membership," in 6th line, there be added—"provided that every Annual Conference District, having five hundred and fifty, or more, over a thousand, shall be entitled to an additional delegation of one minister and one layman,"—then read, "provided further, that every," etc., as now. Adopted.

J. H. Robinson moved that the committee on compiling the New Hymn Book, be authorized to prepare a large edition, with music, so soon as means of the Book Concern will justify. Adopted.

Took up Report of Committee on Ministerial Education,

work that the Great Head of the church will require them to give an account for.

J. H. HAMILTON, *Chairman*.

Adopted.

On motion of John Burns, it was voted that the young men educated by the Board, shall be left free to unite with any Conference they please, without reference to that which recommended them, except said Conference furnish the money which sustained them.

The following Report of Committee on Boundaries, was offered and adopted :

Your committee would respectfully report: 1. That the line between the Onondaga and Genesee Conferences shall run North and South, beginning where the west line of Wayne county intersects Lake Ontario; running on said line to its intersection with the East line of the county of Steuben. Onondaga to embrace all territory in Northern New York, formerly embraced in the extinct Champlain Conference. Churches along the line first above described, to elect which Conference to attach themselves to.

2. The line between the Iowa and North Iowa, to be as follows: Beginning on the Mississippi river at the South-east corner of Muscatine county, running west to Cedar river; thence to the junction of said river with the Iowa river to the old, or correction line; thence west to the East line of Poweshiek county; thence North to the North-east corner of the same county; thence West half way across Jasper county; thence South six miles; thence West to the East line of Polk county; thence South six miles; thence West to the Missouri river.

3. We recommend that the First Methodist Society of East Liverpool, Ohio, be supplied by the Pittsburgh Conference until it elect to be again supplied by the Muskingum Conference.

4. That the Sixth Street Church, of Cincinnati, Ohio, be added to the Pittsburgh Conference, until they shall elect to return to the Ohio Conference.

5. That the Maine and Boston Conferences be united; and that the united Conference be called "Boston" and said Con-

ly as possible, and that Annual Conferences shall hold pastors to a strict account on this subject in the examination of character.

2. That this General Conference elect an Agent, and that said agent shall make it a specialty to meet present obligations, avoiding incurring other obligations, unless there be funds in the hands of the Board to justify. And we recommend that the Agent, the Editor of our Church Paper, Presidents of Annual Conferences, and the pastors of churches, all join in influencing our people to give liberally, in accordance with the requirements made of pastors, as thus incorporated in our Book Discipline.

3. That the Board be continued at Pittsburgh, and that the following persons be elected members: G. G. Westfall, I. W. McKeever, T. H. Colhouer, J. H. Claney, R. H. Marshall, and Wm. Morrison. (The Corresponding Secretary *ex-officio*.)

4. That persons admitted under the care of the Board must have a good English education.

5. That no one be received under the care of the Board who uses tobacco, or continues such use.

6. That the work of T. H. Colhour, "Non-Episcopal Methodism," be included in the course of reading, by candidates for the ministry, as per Discipline,

7. That no student remain under the care of the Board, to exceed three years.

8. That J. B. Walker be re-elected Agent and corresponding Secretary.

9. That the Board direct the Agent to employ his time to the best advantage to secure the object desired, and that economy be used in all expenses.

10. That the Board be directed to ascertain the probable expenses for a year, in advance, and apportion the same to the several Annual Conferences, according to their numerical strength and financial ability.

11. That the Annual Conferences exercise the utmost care in the recommendation of young men to the Board, remembering that such as are recommended, are entering upon a

mends to the Church at Rome, Phebe, a servant of the church at Cenchrea, or as some translate it, a deacon of the church. Yet to the Corinthians he says: "Let your women keep silence in the churches; for it is not permitted unto them to speak."

These glimpses of the relation of woman to the Gospel in the apostolic age give to this question an interest deep, intense and peculiar. There was now a fulfilment of the glorious promise spoken by the prophet Joel: "And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and daughters shall prophecy." Thus the contemplation of an influence, so plain and palpable as it was upon all flesh, that it assumed the most impressive dignity at once. The wind and the fire were now its symbols. The wisdom of God was now attended by God himself. It was mighty in the extreme. It had a world of its own. "The great and notable day of the Lord had come." History tells us that women were authorized by the church to preach, and were ordained for centuries after the apostolic times.

In Gihon's history of the Popes, on page 231, we read that until the seventh century the faithful had recognized priestesses, for in the proceedings of the Council of Chalcedon, it is formally declared that women might receive the orders of the Priesthood. St. Clement, the immediate successor of the apostles of Jesus, enters at length in one of his epistles upon the duties of the priestesses. He says they might celebrate the holy nuptials, preach the Gospel to men as well as women. Godly women have done much for the cause of Christ. There were never sympathies purer, and none more hallowed and delightful than women had brought to this great work. They are pre-eminently qualified to preach to lost sinners a pardon, written with pointed steel and streaming blood, and to which a vast amount of its moral influence is employed. Woman is elevated and endowed with rare qualifications for those divine services. Yet we are deeply impressed with the fact that the church and the world needs more of woman's earnest labor in the further refinement of

ference shall include the States of Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and New Hampshire.

6. That there be added to the list of Conference Districts, Tennessee and North Georgia, to include the States of Tennessee and Georgia.

7. That we add to our list Kentucky District, to include the State Kentucky.

8. Also the North Carolina Mission (colored) Conference District, to embrace the State of North Carolina.

J. S. THRAP, *Chairman.*

Adopted.

The following is the majority Report on Female Ordination, referred to on page 22 made by the chairman, W. R. Parsons:

In the great Christian movement to which Jesus Christ has given his name, there is a blending of agencies, a unity and activity of the energies of all true souls, which is original and peculiar. There is neither male or female, bond or free, Jew or Gentile; all are Christ's.

Thus they are consecrated to one up-lifting, all-controlling end; they touch society in all vital relationships, giving freedom to all individuality, thereby energizing all goodness, elevating our affections, and increasing our joy, and whatever else can possibly enter into society for its progress in purity, as related to time or eternity.

This work had, in the early history of Christianity, many active agents, male and female; those who worked on alike the borders of the invisible, and felt the power of a new and divine life. The individual believer could say, "I live, yet not I but Christ liveth in me," and St. Paul, recognizing the same holy influence in the lives of others, speaks of it as "Christ in you, the hope of glory," and makes mention by name of many of the active workers, male and female, and commends them to the confidence and affections of the churches. In his letter to the Phillippians he says: "And I entreat thee, also, true yoke-fellow. help those women which labored with me in the Gospel;" and he also com-

Walker, were nominated. C. H. Williams received the election.

Item 8, of original report, was then on motion of C. Gray, stricken out. Then the report as a whole, adopted, viz:

Foreign and Domestic Missions.

1. The General Conference shall elect at each of its regular sessions, three ministers and three lay members of the Methodist Church, who, together with the Corresponding Secretary, shall constitute a Board of missions, to serve until the next General Conference.

All vacancies occurring in the Board, by death, resignation, or ceasing to be a minister or member of the Methodist Church, or by removing to too great a distance to admit of convenient attendance on the periodical meetings of the Board, shall be filled by a majority of the remaining members.

2. The Board shall be located in the city of Pittsburgh, Pa., and shall within one month after the rise of the General Conference, elect from its own body, a President, Treasurer, and Recording Secretary. The Corresponding Secretary shall be elected by the General Conference.

3. The Board shall adopt such rules and regulations as may be necessary for the transaction of its business and give efficiency to its operations.

4. It shall have authority to employ such ministers and preachers, to serve as missionaries, (Foreign and Domestic,) as a majority of the Board may deem necessary, and to devise ways and means to raise money to meet its expenditures.

The Board shall also have authority to establish missionary stations, or fields of labor, in destitute and unoccupied portions of the States or Territories, either within or without the boundaries of Annual Conference Districts. Provided, if they be within such boundaries, the consent of such Conference shall be obtained. No minister or preacher shall be employed unless he be recommended by an Annual Conference or the President thereof. All missionaries employed by

society. And perhaps, the brief notice we have of woman's services in the Apostolical times is to teach us that in their service the church must be governed by the wants of the age and the needs of society. Therefore,

Resolved, That the Annual Conferences of the Methodist Church shall have power to ordain females, if a majority of the Conference shall so decide.

The chairman then stated that this was a majority report, and that two of the committee would present a minority report. As the minority report was not ready, the consideration of the report was postponed.

Not adopted.—*Secretary*.

The reports of committee on Constitution for Sabbath-schools, were then made, viz: a majority and minority report. Read and laid on the table.

Adjourned. Prayer by W. H. Jordan.

Tenth Day--Morning Session.

SATURDAY, May 25, 1871.

Conference met at 8 o'clock. John Burns in the chair. Religious exercises conducted by the chairman.

C. Gray, from special committee on harmonizing the Report of Committee on Missions reported. Read and acted on item by item.

The word "Pittsburgh" was then inserted in blank for place, in item 2. Adopted.

Nominations were then made for Corresponding Secretary, as per item 1. Wm. Collier, C. H. Williams and J. B.

Resolved, That the Board of Publication be directed to ascertain as soon as practicable, the cost of an edition of the new Hymn Book, with music; and send out a Circular, with a blank for subscribers' names, to all the pastors of our church, with the request that they obtain the names of parties who will take a copy of the same within two months after its receipt. If a sufficient number subscribe, then such edition be published as soon as practicable.

On motion of Alexander Clark, Editor elect of the RECORDER, the following brethren were constituted "Editorial contributors," to assist the Editor in his duties: John Scott, of the Pittsburgh Conference; W. H. Jordan, of the North Illinois; J. J. Smith, of the New York; E. A. Wheat, of the Genesee; H. B. Knight, of the Pittsburgh; T. B. Graham, of the Ohio; John Burns, of the Muskingum; A. H. Lowrie, of Adrian College.

The Committee on Statistics, A. H. Bassett, chairman, reported. Report accepted. (See Appendix, Document h.)

On motion of Wm. Collier, Conference

Resolved, That the old Board of Publication continue in office until the Book Concern is removed to Pittsburgh. Also, the Executive Committee.

John Scott moved, and Conference voted that the new Board of Publication be requested, if it be found practicable, to publish an "Annual Register," giving the statistics of the Church, and such other facts connected with our ecclesiastical operations, as the Board may deem proper.

Wm. Collier, T. F. Scott, H. B. Knight, R. H. Marshall, John Scott, and John H. Claney, were, on motion, constituted the Board of Missions.

John Burns moved, That the reports on Schools be referred to the Editing Committee of the Discipline, to digest in order to insert in the Discipline such features thereof as will indicate the judgment of this Conference as to the relation of pastors to such schools, and of such schools to the Church. Carried.

J. D. Herr, an alternate representative of the Pittsburgh Conference, was recognized as a member of the body, in place of P. T. Laishley, excused of absence.

the Board, shall be responsible to said Board for their official conduct.

5. The Board shall also have authority to require the Corresponding Secretary to visit Annual Conferences, and other places, in the interests of the missionary cause; hold missionary meetings, and perform such other duties as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of the Board, and allow him suitable compensation for his services.

6. It shall be the duty of the Corresponding Secretary to keep a correct account of all monies collected by him, and pay the same to the Treasurer of the Board, at least once a quarter.

7. It shall be the duty of the Board to render to the General Conference a faithful account of all its transactions during its period of service, and to turn over to that body all books, papers and funds, in their possession; and all missionary work under its supervision.

9. Annual Conferences, if they deem it necessary, may organize societies for the Home work, under the name and style of "Home Extension Societies."

Your committee would further recommend that there be added to the Discipline, Section XI, page 66, under the head of "Duties of Pastors," as follows:—"All pastors of circuits, stations and missions, are required to take up collections annually, in all their congregations, by subscriptions, in aid of the Board of Missions in carrying into effect the object of its appointment by the General Conference, and forward the same to the Treasurer of said Board as soon as practicable. Should any pastor fail to make such collection he shall be liable to answer therefor, and for a second neglect, may be left without an appointment by the Conference of which he is a member.

Report adopted as a whole, and ordered published, as indicated.

C. Gray offered the following:

Resolved, That this General Conference recommend the Board of Missions to establish a mission in Kansas City, Missouri, as soon as possible.

Carried.

On motion of F. H. Pierpont, Conference

Proceeded to fix the seat of the next General Conference. Leubenville, Ohio, and Princeton, Illinois, were nominated. Princeton was decided on.

Geo. Brown and father McCormick, here took leave of the conference in a few kind words.

On motion, Conference re-considered its action in adopting the Report of Committee on Literary Institutions.

On motion of John Burns, the name of I. W. McKeever was substituted for that of A. Mahan; and F. H. Pierpont for that of John Kost, as Trustees. The report, as thus amended, was then re-adopted as a whole.

Alexander Clark then offered the following:

Resolved, That the special thanks of this General Conference are hereby tendered to the proprietors of the St. Clair Hotel, and the American, of this city, for their generous donations of board and lodgings, for members of this body, during its sessions.

Adopted.

On motion, Conference

Resolved, That it is the sense of this body, that the Board of Publication, by employing the old Board to act for them, for the time being, does not thereby divest itself of the legal authority vested in it; and no action of this General Conference shall be differently construed.

N. R. Swift offered the following:

Resolved, That this General Conference returns its thanks to the President and Secretaries, for their fidelity in the discharge of the very responsible and laborious duties devolving upon them during our sessions.

The Conference, on motion of E. A. Wheat, also tendered its thanks to the Fort Wayne and Chicago, Cleveland and Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis, Pennsylvania Central, Pittsburgh and Connellsville, and Pittsburgh and Erie Railroads, for favors of return passes.

Also, to Pastors McKeever and Herr, for their efforts in securing these favors, and to A. H. Bassett, for their distribution through the mail.

The Press of Pittsburgh, particularly the *Commercial, Gazette, Chronicle and Dispatch*, was complimented and thanked for its satisfactory reports of our doings.

The Board of Publication was authorized to establish a

The Executive Committee made a further report, to wit:
 Insert in Discipline, page 63, paragraph 15, the following:
 "In the examination of character, these questions shall be asked:

(To the Conference:)

Is there any objection to Bro. A——?

(To the pastors:)

1. When did you reach your field of labor?
2. When did you leave it?
3. Did you take up the collections ordered by the Book of Discipline, and this Annual Conference?

(To the delegate:)

Was Bro. A—— faithful in his ministerial and pastoral duties.

Adopted.

E. A. Wheat and W. H. Jordan, offered the following:

Resolved, That this General Conference requires the President of each Annual Conference to furnish, within a month after the rise of this body, to the Publishing Committee the names of all the ministers and preachers, in good standing, belonging to their respective Annual Conferences, to be inserted in published Minutes of the General Conference. Carried.

The Executive Committee reported in favor of certain Constitution changes. The question not being empowered to pass upon them, was raised and sustained by the Conference. The report was then withdrawn.

Wm. Collier then offered the following, which was adopted:—

Resolved, That is the opinion of this General Conference that each Annual Conference is fully empowered to appoint its ministers, preachers and missionaries.

F. H. Pierpont, Geo. Brown, and H. B. Knight, were constituted a committee to inquire and report on what further legislation, if any, is necessary for securing our church property, and if any, procure the same.

Took up report of Committee on Boundaries. Amended and adopted. (See Discipline, see on Annual Conference Districts.)

Appendix.

DOCUMENT A.

REPORT.

EXHIBIT of J. S. Thrap, General Agent of the Board of Trustees of Adrian College, Methodist Church, of all receipts and disbursements by him from December 1, 1866, to May 1, 1871, including all monies collected, and subscriptions taken. Made to the General Conference of said Church, held in the city of Pittsburgh, commencing May 17, 1871.

DR.

To Endowment collected.....	\$14,825 30
" Interest collected.....	8,792 21
" Cash for payment of debts.....	12,428 58
" " Donations.....	114 50
" " For Scholarships.....	760 00
" " For land sold.....	503 25
" " For rebuilding South Hall.....	2,655 25
" " Of Treasurer.....	8,356 00
" " On loan.....	1,355 00
" " Collections for Faculty.....	83 38
" " On Rice subscription.....	341 93
" " For Bell on S. Hall.....	86 40
" " For carpet for S. Hall,.....	55 00
Total amount.....	\$50,356 80
To notes for Endowment,.....	41,820 00
" " Payment of debts.....	6,645 00
Grand total.....	98,821 80

CR.

Paid Professors.....	\$14,438 57
" Treasurer.....	11,972 70
" Traveling expenses.....	1,391 75
" Revenue stamps,.....	30 06

Depository at Princeton, Illinois, and also at New York City, if asked for, as soon as practicable.

At the suggestion of Wm. Collier, it was,

Resolved, That the visit of our venerable Bro. McCormick, of Maryland, to this General Conference, has afforded us much pleasure; and we commend him to the grace of God, praying that his life may be preserved, and that he may be safely returned to his family and friends.

John Scott moved that the Board of Publication be requested to take into consideration the propriety of publishing a Monthly Magazine. Adopted.

Took up the report of Committee on Adrian Memorials, as follows:

The committee to whom was referred the memorial of certain citizens of Adrian, in reference to changing the place of holding this General Conference, respectfully report: That they have had the matter before them, and find that while there has been a difference of opinion, and consequently a want of harmony of action, nevertheless, they do not discover any intentional wrong on the part of any.

We suggest that the Conference tender its compliments to the citizens of Adrian, for their expression of good-will and express the hope that such a misunderstanding will not again occur.

On motion of W. H. Jordan, it was,

Resolved, That this General Conference hereby instructs the Editor and Agent to publish the Minutes of our doings in pamphlet form, as soon as possible.

On motion of T. F. Scott, the name of J. D. Herr, of the Pittsburgh Conference, was added to the list of "Editorial contributors to the RECORDER."

Conference was then addressed by the President, in a few parting words, when, on motion, the body adjourned, *sine die*.

Prayer by C. Springer.

FRANCIS F. PIERPONT, PRESIDENT.

H. B. KNIGHT, }
J. R. MULVANE, } *Secretaries:*

reported by Prof. G. B. McElroy,.....1867-8		
\$4,758 16; 1868-9, \$3,077 20; 1869-70, \$3,669 12;		
1870-71, \$3,492 56.....		14,997 04
Due from Board of Education.....		352 00
Due from students.....		345 00
Whole amount of debts and assets.		
To the Treasurer for amount in purchase of a		
mortgage assumed at transfer.....		10,646 00
Amount borrowed of Treasurer, 1867.....		5,820 00
Interest now due on the above.....		1,000 00
Ohio Conference Preachers' Aid and Mission-		
ary Society.....		5,500 00
Interest now due Ohio Conference.....		520 00
J. S. Thrap, money loaned, 1867.....		600 00
Interest now due.....		20 00
L. W. McKeever, on old debt assumed.....		315 00
Interest now due.....		65 00
Yet due on debts assumed in 1867.....		\$42,486 00
By amount of notes given yet to collect for pay-		
ment of debts.....	\$10,510 00	
Real estate transferred with College.....	2,000 00	
Other pledges.....	3,000 00	\$15,500 00
Total.....		\$8,976 00
Amount on new score.—Insurance now due...	\$300 00	
Amount paid Professors over interest collect'd	9,068 00	
Amount due Professors, June 25, 1871.....	5,700 00	
Money loaned.....	500 00	
General Agent's Salary.....	210 00	
Balance on South Hall.....	263 04	\$16,041 04
Total.....		\$25,017 04
By interest due not less than.....		11,000 00
		\$14,017 04

" Postage	106 81	
" Stationery,	27 65	
" Exchange	15 60	
" Expressage	4 75	
" Telegrams	7 10	
" General Agent	5,102 42	
" Old debts	7,771 71	\$40,869 12
" Rev. S. D. Kingsley	106 45	
" Insurance	1,006 25	
" President Mahan's board	84 00	
" A. H. Bassett, expenses	28 70	
" Envelopes,	10 58	
" Interest	3,525 81	
" Redemption and tax on lands	183 54	
" Printing	95 35	
" Rebuilding S. Hall	3,168 44	8,209 12
" Discount	11 60	
" J. B. Walker	17 50	
" C. Baldwin	15 00	
" W. M. Goodner	23 03	
" W. M. Sweet, one pump	12 00	
" Carpet on S. Hall	55 00	
" Building water-closet	360 00	494 13
" Repairs, N. Hall	28 50	
" Philosophical apparatus	39 75	
" Sundries	63 86	
" Notes bearing 10 per cent. in lieu of En- dowment used,	500 00	
" Cash on hands	152 32	\$50 356 80
Notes on hand for Endowment	41,820 00	
" Debts,	6,645 00	48,465 00
Total		\$98,821 80

Endowment notes bearing 10 per cent. interest	\$10,000 00	
" " " 8 per cent. interest.	7,215 00	
" Drawing no int. till Dec. 25, 1872,	19,000 00	
" " " 6 per cent.	605 00	
Stock on Low Manufacturing Company, worthless	5,000 00	\$41 820 00
Whole amount collected for rebuilding South Hall	13,530 94	
Yet to be paid	263 04	
Whole cost of rebuilding	13,793 98	
Receipts on tuition and incidental expenses as		

WHOLE AMOUNT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

College grounds, buildings, and all the appurtenances	\$150,000 00
Lands transferred to us with the College,	2,000 00
Notes for payment of debts	10,510 00
Other promises	3,000 00
Interest now due	11,000 00
Total	\$176,510 00
Endowment invested and collectable	100,000 00
Total assets	\$276,510 00
Total debts unprovided for	14,017 04
Assets clear of liabilities	\$262,492 96

In making the above exhibit of the financial transactions of the past four years and five months, the Agent only shows the *apparent* monied results of his labors, which is very far from being an adequate exhibition of the efforts made, and labor performed.

As he has often had to labor much longer and harder, where he has failed to secure either cash or subscription, than he did where he met with the largest and most encouraging success. But in a good many instances where neither cash nor written obligations were received, promises as sure as the continuance of the life of the parties, have been received for amounts of money honorable to those who have promised, and will be of great use to the College, when it comes, but could not be taken into the above showing of dollars and cents.

In view, however, of all the circumstances in which we had to take the initiative, and have had to prosecute our efforts for the securing of our present Institution of Learning, by comparing our present status with our beginning in the spring of 1864, we think the church will see abundant cause for rejoicing over the success of her agencies in securing an Educational Institution of high order. Then (in 1864) some three or four of us took hold of the enterprize without one penny of the church's money with which to buy an envelope, or to purchase a biscuit. Relying upon our own scanty means as itinerant preachers, we entered the work, with the purpose of going until that was exhausted, and if we failed to meet an encouraging response upon the part of the church give it up as impracticable.

But blessed be God, through whose favor and the liberality of our people, in contrasting, with nothing then to do with or on, we are able now to report, above all liabilities, property, obligations and money to the **\$262,742 96**, with a College in good running order, superior to many, and inferior to few, owned and supported by much

EXHIBIT

Of the whole amount of notes taken for Endowment, the whole amount paid, and the whole amount yet to be paid, with the whole amount of interest paid.

ANNUAL CONFERENCES.	Amount of Notes.....	Am't Col'ed	Uncollected..	Am't In. pd..
Pittsburgh	\$33,102 00	\$6,396 77	\$26,705 23	\$6,334 75
Muskingum	15,290 00	7,613 60	7,676 40	2,745 88
Ohio	33,680 00	22,369 75	11,310 25	3,536 87
North Indiana	1,255 00	609 66	609 66	209 80
Indiana,	19,955 00	120 00	19,835 00	237 53
Iowa,	925 00	200 00	725 00	210 00
North Iowa,	100 00	100 00	.....	.....
Minnesota	100 00	100 00	.....	.....
North Illinois,	8,315 00	500 00	7,815 00	140 00
South Illinois,	285 00	170 00	115 00	24 00
West Virginia	970 00	150 00	820 00	68 75
Michigan	7,710 00	1,303 00	6,407 00	682 32
Western Michigan	1,072 00	281 00	791 00	114 14
Oregon	100 00	.....	100 00	.....
New York	2,999 00	1,875 00	1,124 00	572 91
Onondaga	4,100 00	1,179 00	2,921 00	457 47
Genesee	2,575 00	740 00	1,835 00	400 67
New Jersey	250 00	150 00	100 00	43 18
	132,783 00	43,857 78	88,925 22	15,778 27

WHOLE AMOUNT

Of Notes taken for payment of debts; amount paid, amount yet to be paid, and whole amount of interest paid.

ANNUAL CONFERENCES.	Notes taken..	Notes paid...	Unpaid.....	Interest paid.
Western Michigan,	\$1,570 00	\$595 00	\$975 00	\$ 41 99
Michigan	3,572 00	369 00	3,203 00	25 80
Iowa	1,663 75	710 00	953 75	61 10
South Illinois,	893 45	181 25	712 20	64 40
Muskingum,	5,773 10	4,756 60	1,016 50	119 82
Ohio	347 00	317 00	30 00	.....
Pittsburgh	3,415 00	811 39	2,603 61	84 14
West Virginia,	140 00	25 00	115 00	5 10
Indiana,	2,974 00	2,617 00	357 00	25 75
New Jersey	150 00	75 00	75 00	1 50
Onondaga,	762 00	662 00	100 00	.....
North Iowa,	610 00	271 00	339 00	62 57
Minnesota	100 00	20 00	80 00	.....
	21,970 30	11,460 24	10,510 06	502 17

DOCUMENT B.

BOARD OF MISSIONS.

Report of the Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Missions, to the General Conference of the Methodist Church, in Pittsburgh assembled:

The Secretary in presenting his Report to this body, will first acknowledge in behalf of the Board and himself gratitude to God, for his protecting care over them the past four years, in preserving their lives, and permitting them to meet and attend to the business of the Board, at each and all its regular quarterly and annual meetings.

As soon as practicable after the rise of the General Conference in November, 1866, the newly elected members of the Board met in the city of Springfield, Ohio, and organized under the rules of the church, by electing Geo. Brown, D. D., Pres.; Rev. M. V. B. Euans, Recording Secretary, and Rev. J. E. Snowden, Treasurer. The last named, shortly after resigned, and A. H. Bassett was chosen to fill the vacancy.

Being properly organized the Board at once entered upon its duties by directing the Corresponding Secretary to prepare and send out an Annual Circular, and report the condition of our Mission work and the wants of the Board to all the pastors, and the church also as far as it was accessible throughout the denomination.

Just as soon as this important work was met up, the Secretary started out and traveled at large among our people, preaching, lecturing, taking up subscriptions, collecting money, and as far possible inducing our people, and those that sit under our ministry, to contribute willingly and liberally to the cause of Missions.

After traveling about 9 months, the Secretary found himself in the midst of serious and embarrassing domestic afflictions. So much so that in September, 1867, he notified the Board he could perform the duties of Corresponding Secretary no longer. That however much he desired to carry out the requirements of the General Conference, duty to an afflicted wife and helpless children demanded that he serve the church in a more limited sphere.

The Board, after carefully considering the whole subject, and taking into their deliberations the fact that a portion of the church as well as a part of the pastors in the active ministry, were opposed to collecting missionary money by a salaried Agent, decided to suspend the traveling duties of the Corresponding Secretary, other than such as they might direct, but required him to keep up the Correspondence and perform all the other duties of his office. Those duties

older, more numerous and wealthy denominations. And during the four years we have been running the College, we have not only educated for useful stations, and saved to the church many of the sons and daughters of our people, but have educated and sent into the active ministry of our church more young men than had been received into all of our Conferences in twice the number of the years previous; and now have young men of talent in course of training for the Gospel ministry, amounting in number to more than the whole number now belonging to either of a number of our smaller Conferences. And besides these a great many young men, and young women are now receiving a moral, mental and social training there, to fit them to ornament and bless all honorable and useful circles of society.

Now, in view of all the above, and many more facts that might be mentioned, but for fear of over taxing the patience of the Conference, what is there in all we have done, or failed to do, to discourage the faint hearted? And who that has an eye to see, or a heart to feel, or a mind to appreciate the church's great interest, duty, or destiny, that can not see and feel great encouragement in what has been done and what we now have in hand, and prospect with which as a church to glorify God and elevate and save souls.

In conclusion, while our success has not been all that some have desired or hoped for, we think it sufficient for devout thanks to our Heavenly Father, by all of the Conferences, and members of our beloved Zion, and to inspire all of our people with confidence in the permanent success of the enterprise, to induce our men of large as well as of smaller means, to furnish us with the money to pay the remaining comparatively small debt hanging on us, and thereby relieve our noble Institution of this embarrassment, and set it fully free to go successfully on to bless the church and the world.

Praying the General Conference to take hold in hearty good earnest of the great interest here represented, this Report is hopefully submitted by your servant, for Christ's sake.

J. S. THRAP, *General Agent.*

P. S.—After a careful consideration of the whole subject, and frequent consultations with the members of the Executive Committee, as also with other members of the Board of Trustees and all of the Faculty, I beg leave to suggest to the General Conference, the propriety of taking the necessary steps to reduce the number of our Trustees from 30 to 15, making the President of the College *ex-officio* a member of the Board, and seven members to be elected at each quadrennial session of the General Conference. By doing this the business of the Board can be just as efficiently done, and hundreds of dollars saved annually, of expenses to and from Board Meetings.

J. S. T.

present time have great hope of this Conference. It is in a young and rapidly growing State. Has valuable men in it, both in the ministry and among the laity, and by the blessings of God attending them, that Conference will soon become a flourishing part of our work, and an inviting home to members of our denomination that may seek a location in that part of the West.

Our Mission Work in the State of Kansas for a time moved heavily and slowly, but when God in his good Providence opened the way for the Board to appoint Rev. Moses Jared, Superintendent of that work, he entered upon his duty without inquiring or knowing the amount of salary the Board would allow him, but earnestly entreated the Board for their prayers and sympathy. A man, over middle life in age, he went forth into that sparsely settled prairie country with true missionary zeal, and hunted up the old broken down and declining classes and infused into them new life and hope. He also sought out new and destitute places, and there planted the standard of Republican Methodism and the cross of Christ among a free, earnest and desirous people, and such has been their success that at the last meeting of the Kansas Mission Conference, it resolved hereafter to sustain itself, upon its own resources.

Our Mission Conferences on the Pacific coast, Oregon and California, have been working steadily—and our work there is in the care of some good, self-sacrificing ministers of Christ, but has not been growing as rapidly as we desired it should. This is owing to two causes:

1. Our people there are feeble, and too much scattered to do a great deal to support pastors, and the Treasury of the Board has been too weak to supply the deficiency properly; and,
2. The need of a few more good itinerant ministers to enter into the work with those already in the field.

The Board has again and again had this part of Mission work before them, but have always found their Treasury insufficient to allow them to make large appropriations in aid of that important work, and with all their desire to see those Conferences increase in strength, they have been unable to send out any suitable ministers to assist in building them up.

the Secretary has been performing over three years, and that not upon a Salary.

At the time the Secretary ceased to travel, the Board looked at it as an experiment, but their hope was that though we might not collect as much money as if an Agent was traveling, yet the deficiency would not fall behind the Salary and traveling expenses of the Corresponding Secretary.

What the Board has done, and the condition of our Mission Work.

Since the present Board organized, both the North Carolina and Tennessee Conferences have been organized and brought into our denomination under its direction and supervision. The Board has appropriated to those new Conferences all it consistently could, which together with what they were able to collect at home, has enabled them to live and work with some success. The reports from the Presidents of these Mission Conferences, show them to be in a healthy and hopeful condition, but to enlarged success they will have to have some additional active ministers and a better support.

The Missouri and North Missouri Conferences that were organized by Superintendents sent out by the Board, four years ago, were receiving aid from our Treasury, have already become self-sustaining, and faithful and growing Conferences.

Rev. J. Leech, one of the Superintendents of North Missouri Mission Conference, has been removed from us by death. He fell at his post fully prepared by the grace of Christ for his reward. Also, Rev. O. R. Carlton, our last Superintendent of Missouri Mission Conference. This devoted brother entered that Mission work from a full sense of duty, and labored with ardor and untiring energy to spread liberal Methodism and Bible Christianity all over that country, but in the midst of prospect, and at a time of great usefulness, when he was exerting a strong moral influence in Conference, God called him from the Militant Church, to the Church Triumphant.

For the Secretary in his brief report to mention the fall of those self-sacrificing ministers of Christ, pays but a feeble tribute to their memory. They asked for no eulogy from man. They labored for the meat that perisheth not, and have entered into rest. Though dead they yet speak.

The Nebraska Mission Conference had almost become self-sustaining, but was weakened by setting off that part of it by General Conference that was located in the State of Iowa, to the Iowa Conference, but notwithstanding this embarrassment, they have been working on and gradually increasing, and the Board has done all for them its limited Treasury would allow. We have had anxiety, and at the

the Treasury, but the Board of Trustees of Adrian College conceived the idea of endowing a Theological Chair by our Sabbath Schools, and made an appeal to them for that purpose, this cut off from us almost entirely the aid and sympathy of our Sabbath Schools.

3. By some means a sentiment obtains among a part of our people, that we can do but little for Missions, until we rear and educate suitable ministers to send out into Mission fields.

And I might say in the 4th place, that some of our largest Conferences have been turning their attention to mission work in their own immediate Districts, and have applied their missionary money at home.

All the causes I have here enumerated have been more or less in the way of collecting money for the support of Missionaries, from that part of our church that are willing to give money for the spread of the Gospel, but the greatest want the Board has felt, has been the need of sympathy and co-operation on the part of many of the pastors of our denomination, who are in the active ministry.

In a great many instances where our people have a respectable portion of wealth, (and some of right can be expected from such congregations and Sabbath Schools,) the subject has not been brought before the people, and as a consequence, our church members and Sabbath Schools in those places are without even an opportunity to aid in this great moral enterprize. While in some other instances the subject has been brought before the people in a cold, uninteresting way and but little is realized.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

R. ROSE,

Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Missions.

Pittsburgh, Pa., May 18, 1871.

Financial Report, as taken from the Treasurer's Book, and reported to the Board.

RECEIPTS FROM MAY, 1867, TO APRIL, 1871.

<i>Districts.</i>	<i>Amount.</i>		
Pittsburgh	\$1,108 03	New York	144 40
Muskingum	1,026 21	Michigan	109 00
Ohio	1,015 62	New Jersey	81 64
North Illinois	619 30	Genesee	71 29
North Iowa	405 85	Indiana,	62 60
Western Michigan	236 97	Iowa,	11 00
Onondaga	196 40	North Missouri	7 00
North Indiana	194 15	U. S. Coupons	149 61
South Illinois	115 57	Total	\$5,554 64

EXPENDITURES FROM MAY, 1867, TO APRIL, 1871.

<i>Districts.</i>	<i>Amount.</i>		
Kansas	\$1,156 65	Traveling, printing, stationery and other expenses of the Corresponding Secretary	360 08
North Carolina	929 65	Expenses of convening the Board	75 75
California	637 34	Salary Cor. Sec'y privi-	
Oregon & Washington T.	387 92	ous year	550 00
Tennessee	250 00	Services of Secretary until resignation	406 66
Missouri,	228 90	Total	\$5,559 65
North Indiana,	200 00		
Dayton Mission, O.	136 00		
Nebraska	125 85		
North Missouri	118 85		
Minnesota	30 00		

When the traveling duties of the Secretary were suspended, the whole work of collecting money for the support of Missions, fell into the hands of the pastors and the people, and the report of the Treasurer shows most fully that we are far behind in obtaining what the Board ought to have received, to make our Mission cause a complete success. There are, however, a few palliating reasons that may account in part for our sad financial deficiency which may not be out of place briefly to notice, among which we might state:

1. Our Lithograph plates for Certificates of Life Membership were prepared in the name of Methodist Protestant Church, and when our denominational name was changed, the Certificate became objectionable to a part of our people. However, the plates were subsequently destroyed in the burning of the Opera House in Cincinnati.

The subject of getting up another plan was considered by the Board, and after carefully examining it, they felt there was sufficient reasons why they had better not get up another plate before the present meeting of the General Conference. This course kept out of the Treasury all the income that would have been realized by the sales of Life Member Certificates.

2. Many of our Sabbath Schools had become interested in our Missionary enterprise, and were collecting money and forwarding it to

plies. Not however, having means in the treasury, the sum of \$950 had to be used from other sources, for issuing the first editions of the Discipline and Hymn Book. The book sales however which followed, within a few month, replaced the money, and we were *all right* again.

It is necessary to state some circumstances which have impeded and prevented the measure of success which we had hoped to realize. During the first season we were passing through what was termed the *paper panic*, struggling with the enormous prices for the essential article of paper, they being fully double the amount that they had been a few years previously. Of this we are since measurably relieved—not fully. Whether or not we ever again shall reach the former rates, is a question problematical. Our paper now costs us, for the Weekly, sixty dollars per week, and for the juvenile work, at present, over ninety dollars, for each monthly issue.

During the first two years of our term, we had a favorable arrangement with a printing company which occupied portions of our building. This party, during the time, did our press work, in compensation for their rent, they also paying for the steam power. But in 1869, the Republic Printing Co. retired from us, and went to quarters of their own. We at once made arrangements to employ a pressman and do our own press work, an essential increase of expenses however being involved, especially as we did not immediately succeed in renting the portions of the building vacated, and portions still remain vacant.

In the above mentioned change in our business, a considerable outlay for fixtures was required. There was necessity also for a general repairing of the building. And withal, it was thought best, in consultation, the Board of Publication concurring, to reconstruct somewhat the interior, continuing the front stairway to the third story, petitioning the second story into several rooms, and fitting up a neat room for the Editor, upon the second floor. And, to comply with a city ordinance, and be in keeping with the improvements of our neighbors, we covered our walk with a neat pavement of brick. These repairs and improvements cost us over five hundred dollars.

At the end of our second year, May, 1869, the Publishing Agent was enabled to make report to the Board of Publication, current expenses fully met, and balance in the treasury of several hundred dollars. At that time we were issuing what we considered a respectable sized paper of eight pages, five columns to the page. Being much beset with appeals and demands by complainants regarding the price of our paper, the Agent ventured in his Annual Report to suggest to the Board to consider the propriety of announcing in due time, that the price of the yearly subscription would be reduced to *two dollars*, from commencement of next forthcoming volume. This

DOCUMENT C.

QUADRENNIAL REPORT

OF PUBLISHING AGENT, METHODIST CHURCH,
From May 11, 1867, to April 29, 1871.

RECEIPTS.

Methodist Recorder....	\$30,087 97	Donations.....	20 25
Sunday School Paper...	7,182 36		
Books, sales.....	15,660 02	Total	\$59,608 71
Advertising,	2,545 89		59,033 20
Printing.....	635 10		
Rent.....	1,437 45	Balance in hand.....	575 51
Loans.....	2,039 67		

EXPENDITURES.

Paper Makers.....	\$13,007 96	Conferences.....	510,28
Printers.....	10,407 70	Postage and Stamps....	562 16
Books and Stationery..	6,151 37	Repairs and Improve-	
Editors.....	5,377 00	ments.....	510 69
Binding.....	5,191 39	Folding Papers.....	470 02
Publishing.....	4,690 00	Fuel.....	431 25
Pressman,.....	2,942 85	Steam Power.....	313 11
Loans,.....	2,054 00	Editor's Moving Ex-	
Clerk.....	1,545 65	penses.....	114 00
Type Foundry,.....	1,505 10	Foreign Correspon-	
Taxes, Insurance and U.		dence,.....	30 00
S. License.....	927 41	Sunday School Cuts....	188 90
Expressage, Freight,		Ink.....	268 38
and Drayage.....	611 86	Interest.....	54 00
Premium Expenses,		Apparatus and Repairs	169 86
New Subscribers.....	557 50	Printing.....	36 00
Expenses, Commission-		Sundries,.....	404 76
ers, Members of Board			
and visiting Annual		Total.....	\$59,033 20

Our four years' term of service, upon which we now make report, commenced with the new era in our ecclesiastical affairs, the first General Conference of the Methodist Church. At that time we were already in possession of church property in Springfield, Ohio, lot and building, with a moderate amount of machinery and printing material, and some stock, of all which the estimated valuation was given. Our Weekly Paper had then a circulation of 3,557, and our Semi-Monthly Sunday School Paper an average circulation of, say, 5,000 copies.

With our new ecclesiastical status, we had to commence *de novo*, as to the issuing of church books. The Discipline had to be first compiled, and then published. As the current Hymn Book was ordered to be continued as the official work for the four years' term, using the present plates, with a simple change of Title Page, indicating the denominational Name, we were enabled in a short time to produce sup-

of whom has since gone to his reward. But, about 1866, when the present incumbent was not in the office, in some necessary exigency of the business, this deposit was hypothecated as security for a note in bank of one thousand nine hundred and forty-eight dollars. This circumstance, of course, has obstructed the use of the funds, as intended. The present Treasurer of the Board, Bro. J. G. Evans, has had care of this interest; and as he will duly make report, the coupons of the bonds have reduced the amount of the note by over five hundred dollars, leaving but one thousand four hundred and twenty-nine dollars incumbrance upon the fund. The Publishing Agent did fondly hope by this time, to be able by avails of our business, fully to release the obligation. But to meet the large amount of extra expenses, of which mention has been made, in addition to our current expenses, has thus far commanded all the means we could control. Had the enlargement of our paper been deferred one year, we believe this could have been accomplished.

Our facilities for Book Printing are of course very deficient, until an additional press be procured. And the amount which could be controlled of the fund in reserve for this purpose, above referred to, over two thousand dollars, would be insufficient to purchase and fit up a desirable machine. Our one Adams press has to be used, at the regular intervals, perpetually, for printing our weekly and our monthly issues. Then what we do in the way of book printing has to be done in the intervals, in alternation with the periodicals, which occupy the press the larger portion of the time. Thus we printed the pamphlet proceedings of the last two General Conferences, Thus we have printed all the editions of the Discipline since the Convention of 1858. And thus we continued to print the successive editions of our Hymn Book, until an advantageous arrangement was made to have both the printing and the binding of the work executed at a responsible house at Cincinnati, they of course giving our Springfield imprint. They do this at such fair rates, that it is doubtful that we would be able to do it more cheaply if we had the facilities. Yet, having a room in our building, very suitable for the purposes of a bindery, it would be entirely practicable, at moderate outfit, to establish one. We are of opinion it would be well to do so—especially as we have at hand a binder, a shrewd man who is desirous to enter into arrangement to work for us. This done, it is believed, we would receive a large amount of custom in the way of job work. We were inclined to enter into this measure last season, but for our increased expenses, and because we preferred not to anticipate the action of the then approaching General Conference.

Within the four years past we have issued seven editions of the Church Hymn Book, amounting to 11,729 copies, all of which have

suggestion, however, failed to meet the concurrence of either the Board or the Editor. It was decided, that for the commencement of ensuing volume, we should procure new type, and enlarge the paper, thus making it more decidedly worth two dollars and fifty cents per year to the subscribers. This, it was hoped, would silence the complaints generally concerning the price. The Agent, of course, yielded assent, and pursued the measure. In due time we contracted for the new printing material, and enlarged the paper. But we had to enter upon the measure with a degree of fear and trembling, as to the financial prospect. For, the purchase of the new material brought us a bill of fourteen hundred dollars; and the enlargement, involving increased amount of composition, and increased quantity of paper by weight, gave us an increased expense for the ensuing year of fourteen dollars per week, \$718 00. These circumstances gave us too much of a financial backset to be overcome in one season, and the increase of patronage did not prove sufficient to justify the outlay involved.

The third Annual Meeting of our Board, one year ago, found us struggling with this stress of circumstances. We had some indebtedness, and during the ensuing summer, when we suffered the usual falling off of receipts, we had to obtain loans, amounting to eleven hundred dollars, for a few months time. But we were thankful to be enabled to struggle through, and afterwards to replace these amounts, and keep ourselves equal to the situation. Meanwhile, Bro. Scott, the Editor elected by last General Conference, tendered his resignation, and Bro. Clark was chosen to fill the important post vacated. The Board thought it necessary to accord to the latter an increase of salary, besides which his moving expenses we paid amounted to one hundred and fourteen dollars. We have since also adopted the use of a superior article of paper, causing an increased expense of several dollars weekly.

It is necessary thus to make statement of the several extra expenses we have had, that it may appear why our business has not been more productive and prosperous. But we are in running order. Some of the drawbacks have been overcome. And, if the essential requisite of pecuniary means is duly supplied, and if new burdens do not impede us, we are about ready to move into the better success which we have been hoping and struggling to realize.

Several years ago, a movement was made to make up a special fund for the purchase of an additional press, and for establishing a bindery in connection with the Book Room. The sum of about thirty-five hundred dollars was raised, invested in U. S. bonds, and made a special deposit in bank for the intended purpose. The main portion of this amount was donated by two aged brethren of Cincinnati, one

should be circulated. Every pastor should be required by his conference, so far as possible, to place a copy of the paper in every family embraced in his charge. I have sent twenty new subscribers from a circuit where there was but one subscriber when I came to it; and my copy of the paper is all I want for my work in its behalf." This dear brother is not alone. We have others, in many of the conferences, acting with the like disinterestedness, and energy and success. And we consider that such should, in some way, have some compensation for their efforts. But we are sorry to say that upon the other hand, there are those who do little or nothing for the interests of the paper, and whose agency does not even compensate for their own copy. Such brethren, in some instances occupy important positions. They are probably conscientious, and wish well to the interests of the church, (even of the church paper, *provided it can run itself!*) But it is plain as day, that no paper could exist half a year through their influence or exertions in raising means for its support, even if they were numbered by thousands.

SUBSCRIPTION LIST, BY DISTRICTS.

Muskingum,.....	703	Oregon and Washington,.....	38
Pittsburgh, 483	}	Nebraska,.....	34
West Virginia, 136,		Wisconsin,.....	28
Ohio,.....	578	North Carolina,.....	25
North Illinois,.....	436	Boston,.....	21
Indiana,.....	214	Maryland,.....	21
Onondaga,.....	205	Minnesota,.....	17
Iowa,.....	197	California,.....	11
Michigan,.....	174	Tennessee,.....	9
West Michigan,.....	156	Texas,.....	7
South Illinois,.....	156	Kentucky,.....	3
North Iowa,.....	138	Alabama,.....	3
Missouri.....	132	Georgia and Delaware 2 each, ..	4
North Indiana,.....	131	Canada,.....	2
Genesee,.....	121	D. C. and Virginia, 1 each,	2
New York,.....	120	S. Carolina and Louisiana 1 each	2
Kansas.....	81	Dacotah Territory,.....	1
North Missouri,.....	77	Wyoming Territory,.....	1
New Jersey.....	74		
Pennsylvania,.....	59		4604

We can not refrain from referring to the recent death of Bro. O. R. Carlton, of Missouri. Less than five years ago, a young minister, he went to that country, then just recovering from the desolating ravages of war. He traveled extensively in his Gospel work, and we may say, he everywhere propagated our cause by introducing our church paper, and circulating our books. Largely through his influence and labors, with some partial aid from the Board of Missions which is now withdrawn, a self-sustaining conference, is established, (besides another in North Missouri,) and in its bounds to-day our

been sold. This amount of sales, for the period, is very small for our denomination. But the foreshadowing of a new compilation had evident influence upon the demand. On this account we made our successive editions the smaller, from 1,000 to 2,000 copies, so as not to have quantities left on hand unsold.

Of the Church Discipline we have issued but two editions, amounting to 6,715 copies. We are sorry to say, that this quantity has fully answered the demand. So small and convenient a book, the formula of the church, issued at so cheap a rate, 25 cents per copy, retail, postpaid, and 25 per cent, off, wholesale, one would suppose, would be demanded in quantities everywhere—would occupy place in all our families, not to say in the coat pockets of all our brethren. But it seems that, in all our connection, less than seven thousand copies are sold in the period of four years!

Our Subscription List of the METHODIST RECORDER is 4,604, a considerable allowance to be made for Agents, Exchanges, and other non-paying copies. The number, four years ago, was 3,557; a net gain realized of only 1,047 in the period. What proportion of this is due to the premium measure pursued during the past winter can not be determined. At the instance of the Editor, with the best of motives, in view of extending rapidly and largely our subscription list, we arranged with a magazine publisher, at a minimum rate, for joint issue of the two publications. Hundreds of subscriptions were received, upon this principle, and our paper has thus gone into numerous families which it had never before reached. But, of course, this has yielded no present profit, the advantage to be realized lies only in the permanent subscriptions secured, paying full price in future. The arrangement too has involved an incalculable amount of labor and perplexity on the part of the Publishing Agent. And the end is not yet, for he is by many held responsible for every failure and oversight at the Philadelphia house as well as at our own House of publication. From our experience thus far, it is our opinion, that in future our paper should be offered to the public on its simple merits, without the inducement of a premium to subscribers. We are happy to say that since the discontinuance of the premium offer, the Editor and Publisher are cheered with the daily influx of new names to our list. Our brethren generally who act as Agents, do so from the worthy motive to promote the interests of the church. We have a noble set of brethren acting in this capacity, who are endearing themselves to us more and more continually by their vigilance and energy in acting for the interests of the paper. We take the liberty to personate one case, in the far West, Bro. W. Tipton, of Missouri Conference. He writes, "I do hope, Bro. B., that you will soon leave out the offering of *premiums*. It is not the way that a church organ

LIABILITIES.

Note of Treasurer in Mad River National Bank, against United States bonds,.....	\$1,429 00
Bills payable,.....	700 00—2,129 00
Total.....	\$22,671 00

It is matter of congratulation, that in the progress of business and improvement around us, our property in Springfield is steadily advancing in value. The ground itself is worth five times the amount of its value at the time of our purchase. Neighboring property holders say that the building is now worth one fourth more than the amount of its cost when erected. We are just half a square from our principal railroad. At its nearest point has lately been erected a new passenger depot. Half a square from us, in the opposite direction, now stands a newly erected first class hotel building, which contains the city post office. Thus our building is situated half way between these two great public points, and almost within a stone's cast of each of them. It may not be amiss to state that additional railroad lines are being laid, both east and west of Springfield, which will shortly bring the place on the line of one or more great through routes, which will greatly add to the mailing facilities of the point.

We can not close this Report without bearing testimony to the energy, application and devotion of the Editors, Bros. Scott and Clark, to the interests of the **RECORDER**. Their work is before the people. Our relations with them have been uniformly harmonious and fraternal.

Finally. The interests of our publishing business, have been, with the writer, for a series of years, a ruling passion. And he now, asking indulgence for imperfections, in all deference, renders his account to the General Conference, with sincere wishes and prayers for the future enlarged success of the enterprise.

Respectfully submitted,

A. H. BASSETT,

Publishing Agent.

Springfield, Ohio, May 15, 1871.

paper has a larger circulation than in some of the old conferences. This foreshows permanency. Other dear brethren have finished their work, who used to act zealously for our paper, procuring subscriptions by scores. Of these were V. Lucas, of Pittsburgh, C. C. Cary, of Genesee, W. E. Martin, of North Illinois, W. Purvis, of North Iowa, H. C. Boyer, of Nebraska, and others. We have been pained to lose these brethren from the working ranks. But thank God, they were faithful unto death, and they have their reward. We are only anxious that surviving ones should now step forward and fill their places in effectiveness.

Our Sunday-school paper has not the amount of patronage to make it strictly remunerative. Heretofore, it has lived, through economy in its outfit and management. The taste of our Editor has required a change in its form, which is well approved, so far as we know; but the increase of embellishments involves an increase of cost, which would be compensated by increase of patronage. Should not our brethren, everywhere that there are Sunday-schools, see that the little journal is introduced. Our Editor is taking great pains to make it interesting and attractive, and in this he is succeeding well.

NOTE.—We are happy to say, that within the two weeks past, since the above was written, we have had such a steady influx of orders for our juvenile, that we were compelled to print a second edition of May numbers, all of which have been called for. And we have now in press a larger edition for June than we have ever before struck.

STATEMENT OF BOOK SALES, BY DISTRICTS,

To show the amount of Patronage given to the Book Concern within each Conference.

Muskingum,.....	\$2,127 49	New Jersey,.....	\$210 85
Ohio,.....	2,126 45	Kansas,.....	164 36
Pittsburgh,.....	1,542 05	North Carolina,.....	158 92
North Illinois,.....	1,507 89	Nebraska,.....	141 57
Iowa.....	1,052 78	Wisconsin,.....	131 45
Michigan,.....	883 57	West Virginia,.....	118 78
Indiana,.....	727 58	Pennsylvania,.....	115 72
Onondaga,.....	664 75	Minnesota,.....	64 00
Missouri,.....	639 56	Tennessee,.....	58 15
West Michigan,.....	573 57	Oregon,.....	30 92
North Iowa,.....	559 91	Boston,.....	30 55
South Illinois,.....	505 08	California,.....	27 20
Genesee,.....	354 67	Kentucky,.....	10 70
North Missouri,.....	331 65	Rhode Island,.....	8 47
North Indiana,.....	273 57	Texas,.....	3 15
New York,.....	255 80	Maryland,.....	3 10

ESTIMATE OF ASSETS.

Lot and Building,.....	\$14,000 00
Printing Apparatus,.....	3,500 00
Books on hand,.....	500 00
United States Bonds in hands of Treasurer,.....	3,500 00
Bills receivable,.....	1,300 00
Subscription List and Good Will,.....	2,000 00
	<hr/>
	\$24,800 00

CONFERENCES.	1st. Year...	2d. Year...	3d. Year...	4th. Year..	5th. Year...	Total.....
Pittsburgh.....	180 00	2608 77	1503 10	1247 24	437 70	\$7976 81
Muskingum.....	57 00	704 88	705 26	934 05	276 81	2678 00
Ohio.....	152 00	792 02	458 18	393 06	278 83	2074 06
New York.....	98 75	313 81	176 13	221 59	256 09	1066 37
New Jersey.....	40 00	63 55	115 55	81 38	261 90	562 39
Onondaga.....	35 60	119 40	81 75	83 04	112 23	462 02
Genesee.....	20 63	50 00	24 75	46 50	25 00	166 88
Indiana.....		158 77	113 80	175 35	13 00	460 92
North Indiana.....		71 50	71 15		33 75	176 40
Michigan.....	45 00	91 79	62 20	40 83	63 29	303 11
Western Michigan.....		55 00	12 09	8 10	118 45	193 64
North Illinois.....	3 50	3 00	141 61	306 38	177 42	628 91
South Illinois.....		29 50	89 60	140 80	25 00	284 90
Iowa.....		12 00	71 80	28 35	5 20	117 35
North Iowa.....		100 00	14 00		20 45	134 45
Nebraska.....			84 00	85 00		179 00
West Virginia.....	20 00	164 34				184 34
Boston.....	13 00					13 00
North Missouri.....				1 00		1 00
Kansas.....				3 50		3 50
North Carolina.....					1 50	1 50
Tennessee.....					5 00	5 00

Interest on Permanent fund.....	\$ 877 77
Miscellaneous, Allegheny Seminary.....	90 00
Received from old Treasurer at Springfield.....	2,599 44
Loans.....	2,450,00
Total.....	\$21,690 82
Total expenditures.....	\$19,009 23
Balance on hand.....	2,681 59

It will be seen by our printed By-Laws, that no young man can obtain the assistance of this Board, until he produce a written recommendation from the church of which he is a member, and of the Conference in the bounds of which he resides. Stating that he is believed to be truly pious; possesses promising native talents; is deeply impressed with the duty of preaching the Gospel; is destitute of the means to defray the expenses of his own education; has mastered thoroughly all the branches of rudimental education taught in the better grade common schools, and agrees, if assisted, in due time to enter and continue in the ministry of the Methodist Church, unless Providentially hindered, and on failure to do so, binds himself to refund the money with interest from the time it was received.

The plan proposed is, that the churches and Conferences shall select the men to whom aid shall be given; furnish the means to defray their expenses in connection with the candidates themselves, deter-

DOCUMENT D.

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

REPORT OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

To the President and Members of the General Conference of the Methodist Church, assembled in Pittsburgh, Pa., May 17, A. D., 1871.

DEAR BRETHREN: The Board of Ministerial Education, as required in the Constitution by which we are governed, now offers for your consideration its first quadrennial report.

In doing so, we feel sure you will heartily join with us in sentiments of devout gratitude for the evident manifestations of the Divine favor, that have already attended our efforts to encourage and help worthy young men in making their preparation for the work of the Gospel ministry.

It will be remembered that it is only a little more than four years since our denomination first engaged in this worthy undertaking. During this time the Annual Conferences have placed under the care of the Board thirty-three candidates, all of whom have received more or less assistance. The number sent from each Conference thus far is as follows:

Pittsburgh, 7; Muskingum, 2; Ohio, 5; New York, 3; New Jersey, 2; Onondaga, 1; Genesee, 1; Indiana, 2; North Indiana, 2; North Illinois, 3; South Illinois, 1; Western Michigan, 1; Iowa, 1; North Iowa, 1; Nebraska, 1.

When the present educational year shall close, fifteen of the above number will have left the College to join the brethren in the active work in their respective Conferences. The time they were under the care of the Board respectively, varying from two to four years. Fifteen of the remaining number are still pursuing their studies, and expect in due time to enter the ministry. While for sufficient reasons, the Board declined further help to three after they had been at the College a short time.

Seventeen Annual Conferences, and as is supposed, over two hundred churches within these bounds, have thus far contributed to the support of this enterprise. In consequence of parties failing in some cases to give the necessary information when sending money, we are not able to state the precise amount contributed by each Annual Conference. But the following exhibit from the Treasurer will approximate the facts in the case:

have done so nobly; bring results of such an encouraging character, that a very large proportion of the church has heard but little about, and done nothing for the support of this cause! Many of the people even yet, totally misapprehend the whole matter, by supposing that special sympathy for young men abundantly able to take care of themselves is intended, and fail to see that the object is not to show special favor to men, but as speedily as possible, to largely increase the number of properly qualified ministers of the Gospel, and thereby build up the cause of Christ.

As it would be vastly expensive and is utterly impracticable to multiply hired agents to traverse the country, and present this subject to the people, we, like other denominations, are compelled to look to pastoral co-operation, as the only available agency on which we can rely for this work.

The last General Conference did order that each pastor should present this subject to the people of his charge once during each year, and take their contributions for it. But they set no time for it to be done, and the Board have not only failed to get collections taken with any degree of unanimity, but with a large majority have failed to get the work done at all.

We therefore commend the whole subject, with the above statement of facts to your most earnest consideration, hoping that in your wisdom such legislation may be had as will make this department of our church enterprize a great power for good. We feel that we need not labor to prove to you what is so apparent to all, that our great need as a branch of the Christian Church, is a larger number of efficient ministers. It is true of us, as of all other denominations, that we have, and are prospering in the great work of giving the bread of life to a perishing world, in proportion, (other things being equal,) as we have been able to secure effective, faithful men to preach the Gospel.

Besides the increasing demand of our advancing work for more laborers, our ranks are being constantly depleted by the hand of death and otherwise. You will not fail to be deeply impressed with the fact, that two honored ministers elected to have seats in this present General Conference, and two laymen have fallen during the past year. Many others also who have gone forth in the heat of the battle, have fallen in the conflict!

Thoughtfully may we therefore inquire, who is to fill the place of the energetic Carlton of Missouri? The faithful Purvis of North Iowa? The earnest Boyer of Nebraska? The venerable Reeves of Pittsburgh? and others who have gone to their reward.

Who also is to succeed our honored Brown, Rutledge, Springer, and William B. Evans? and many other worthy men who yet linger among us in the evening time of life, after the hard fought battles of their day for the triumph of the Redeemer's kingdom, and the principles of a just and liberal church government?

Well may we inquire also, from whence the supply of laborers to aid in gathering the whitened harvest on the distant frontiers of our own country, as well as to go forth with the word of life to distant lands.

The increasing wants of our older and stronger Conferences for men to supply the work in our densely populated towns and cities, and all through the country, is a matter of serious concern.

Only give us the men to go forth with a free, untrammelled Gospel, the liberal form of church government bequeathed to us by the

mine on the course of study to be pursued, and the length of time they are to remain in college, etc.

It being the duty of the Board to take charge of the candidates thus placed in their hands; see that they continue to maintain a truly Christian character, pursue faithfully the course of study agreed upon by them and their respective Conferences; that the money furnished be expended on the most economical basis possible to accomplish the desired end; report annually the standing and progress of the students to their Conference, and see that they return to them at the time agreed upon.

Thus it will be seen, if the Conference either induce or allow their young men to leave the college without sufficient preparation for their work, the Board can not be held responsible. As the General Conference gave no rule as the length of time assistance should be rendered, the Board has endeavored to carry out the will of the Conferences in each given case. Declining, however, to extend aid to any one longer than four years.

Of course, in the beginning, these rules were not so strictly adhered to as now, either in regard to the Conferences or the young men. The result has been, the former have been slow to assume the proper responsibility; and in regard to the latter, a few persons have been aided whose primary education did not reach the present standard, in consequence of which their stay at college has been necessarily longer than it would have been, had the present rule been observed.

In regard to the amount of assistance to be rendered each candidate per year, the Board has been governed by the necessities of each particular case, rather than a fixed amount by rule. It being found, however, that in case of those who had no means of their own, two hundred dollars would cover the actual college expense of students for the minisrry, that sum has become maximum appropriation. The object being to render that amount of assistance only, which was essential to retain each student in college.

The means of support relied upon for the prosecution of this work has been from two sources:

1. The annual interest on what is known as the Permanent Fund. This fund consists of two thousand five hundred dollars, which was given by our lamented Bros. James Hicks and Daniel H. Horne, of Cincinnati, Ohio, before their decease, and is now invested in 5-20 United States Bonds. The Board has also had the interest on about seven thousand dollars, resulting from the sale of Allegheny Seminary, owned by the Pittsburgh Annual Conference. And although the principal is not yet in the hands of this Board as contemplated it would be by the last General Conference, the interest has been paid annually into its Treasury.

It is very desirable that these permanent securities should be largely increased as rapidly as possible. But the constant appeal to our brethren of large means to free the college from financial embarrassment, and place it on a firm footing, has prevented the Board from making special efforts in this direction.

The other and principal source of revenue is a direct contribution from the churches annually. This plan is succeeding largely with other denominations, and is working well among our people as far as they have been properly informed on the subject. The annual contributions of many of our congregations during the past four years, for this object will compare favorably with those of well drilled churches of long experience.

Yet it is to be deeply regretted, that after a portion of our people

as a church to join hearts and hands with any or all of our Christian brethren in any laudable effort to save souls, and bring the whole world to Christ; thus proving to the world that we love one another.

2. As a branch of the church of Jesus Christ, and as a separate organization in the great family of Methodism, based upon Scriptural and Republican principles, we feel, that after more than forty years of existence and experience, maintained by an amount of sacrifice of no small magnitude, voluntarily and cheerfully borne upon the part of the ministry and laity, for the sake of the principles involved, that the wisdom of the honored founders of our church is *fully vindicated*; and her continued existence upon those principles *imperatively demanded* as much now as ever before. Not one fundamental principle has proved itself a failure: while the great pressure brought to bear upon the Methodist Episcopal Church in favor of a representative form of government, fully establishes the correctness of our own church polity in the minds of intelligent Methodists: and we should be guilty of a moral wrong to relinquish those principles for any minor considerations of money or place.

3. Judging from the expressions of representative men, and leading journals in the Methodist Episcopal Church; that, the Episcopacy with all its adjuncts, as we believe, of unreasonable power is to be conserved; and also, that the present lay delegation movement in that church is not yet officially settled: and if it were, it is in our judgment a practical nullity, so far as the laity are concerned: and as in all the approaches made to us as a church by them, either spoken or published, we can perceive no concessions towards us farther than kindly recognition and brotherly greetings, we fail to see at present any reason why we should disband our church and join theirs. Nevertheless, we will ever stand ready to consider plans of union of the whole Methodist family, whenever it can be done without a sacrifice of those Bible principles we so dearly cherish, and have so long successfully maintained. And we hereby declare our hearty willingness to confer in an official capacity with persons properly appointed by the Methodist Episcopal Church, at a suitable time and place, to consider plans for Christian co-operation; fraternal visitation, or a basis of ultimate union: urging, meanwhile, that the most kindly feelings and friendly intercourse be cultivated between the two churches; and we hail with pleasure the presence of Rev. Dr. Merrill, of the *Western Christian Advocate*, and Rev. J. G. Bruce, commissioners appointed by the Methodist Episcopal Church to visit our General Conference, and to confer upon plans of union.

4. There are some minor bodies of non-Episcopal Methodism existing in different parts of the country, who, in common with ourselves, hold substantially the same views of church government, and each of these organizations are doing what they can to sustain their cherished principles. It is obvious that these divisions and subdivisions of non-Episcopal Methodism are at once weakening, and detrimental to the cause we each desire to maintain. It is equally obvious that if we were united into one body, we could, by our united efforts, concentration and directness of aims, and plans, be much more efficient as a body than in our present isolated and divided condition. We therefore recommend the creation of a committee by this General Conference who shall be authorized to confer, in the interim of this General Conference, with like committees from any or all of the separate denominations of non-Episcopal Methodism upon a basis of union, subject to the action of the succeeding General Conference. We hereby cordially invite all our non-Episcopal brethren to kind-

founders of our branch of the great Methodist family, and by the blessing of God we may hopefully expect to accomplish our full share of harvesting the world for Christ.

J. B. WALKER,
Corresponding Secretary.

DOCUMENT E.

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF PUBLICATION, METHODIST CHURCH,
SPRINGFIELD, OHIO, MAY 15, 1871. }

Abstract of Treasurer's Report, from January 23, 1867, to May 15, 1871.

RECAPITULATION.

1871. May 9. Bills Payable Mad River National Bank....	\$1,429 00
Balance to credit of Press and Bindery.....	2,235 71
Total.....	\$3,664 71
May 9. 5-20 Bonds in Mad River National Bank, held in trust on Press and Bindery account.....	\$3,500 00
Interest account.....	150 40
Balance in Donation account.....	14 31
Total.....	\$3,664 71

All of which is Respectfully submitted.

J. G. EVANS, *Treasurer.*

DOCUMENT F.

METHODISTIC UNION.

The Committee on Methodistic Union respectfully submit the following Report:

1. The Methodist Church as a branch of the militant church of our Lord Jesus Christ, stands now, as ever, with open hearts and extended hands in Christian love and sympathy towards all evangelical Christian denominations; freely conceding to all their right to their peculiar views in all subjects not involving a violation of the principles of the word of God, even as we desire to have our rights in these things. We ardently desire, and shall earnestly cultivate that spirit of friendly intercourse, and interchange of labor with one another, which Gospel love and Holy Ghost religion teaches. We stand ready

The Sabbath-school in its inculcation of a Christian morality is one of the most efficient appliances under God now in the hands of the church, for diverting from the young a multiform infidelity, and of neutralizing the moral miasma so fearfully accumulating; hence the parent, the community, or the church that does not give this cause a hearty sympathy and co-operation, exposes itself to a fearful responsibility.

And, whereas, there is a growing belief among Sabbath-school workers that what is now known as Union Sabbath-schools do not teach a distinctive and positive Christian faith, hence are not as effective as desirable.

And, whereas, most Christian people are making Sabbath-schools, under their influence denominational, and yet by Sabbath-school conventions, Union concerts, and other means, seek to inculcate and cultivate a more cordial Christian love and co-operation; therefore, we recommend,

1. That our people work more earnestly in support of this noble cause of God.

2. Where practicable, that Sabbath-schools under our influence be made denominational.

3. That a committee be appointed to draft a Constitution for the government of Sabbath-schools, to be reported for action by this General Conference, during its present session.

4. That a committee be appointed to compile a Catechism adapted to Sabbath-schools.

5. That the Annual Conferences take hold of the subject of Sabbath-schools with renewed vigor, and that under the Constitution and Catechism adopted by this General Conference, adapt the work to the peculiarities of their several localities.

6. As an agency calculated to give invaluable information, ripe experience, and diffuse earnest life into Sabbath-school workers, we would recommend that our people co-operate more zealously with the friends of Sabbath-schools in Township, County, and State Sabbath-school Conventions.

We esteem our church paper, known as the *Sunday School*, as second to none in this department of Publications, and urge that Methodists labor to give it a more general circulation.

8. Care should be taken to see that the Music with all the Literature used in the *Sunday School* is full of a Christian morality, such as will promote an earnest Christian life.

J. H. LUSE, *Chairman.*

ly and candidly consider the importance of our being united into one organization, thus increasing our efficiency both in seeking the salvation of souls and building up the church government upon the liberal principles of the Bible.

5. As the main cause that brought about a division of the Methodist Protestant Church, in the providence of God has been removed. And as, perhaps, all the disturbances and divisions of feeling among Methodist Protestant people in years gone by, grew out of the cause alluded to, now that the cause is gone, why not let all its effects, as far as possible, go with it? Cease attempting to adjust the past by criminating and recriminating each other, and "even as Christ forgave you, so forgive ye one another," and start anew. In view of our oneness of view in faith and doctrine, and in church government, it is exceedingly desirable that we should be one body, instead of two, as we now are; and thereby impairing our strength, and crippling our efficiency in the common cause we both so dearly cherish.

In the love of the Saviour, and by the precious memories of those honored servants of God, who were the founders of the Methodist Protestant Church, we invite our brethren to meet us in an effort to effect union of the two churches.

We recommend that the fraternal delegates appointed by the General Conference, be constituted a Commission to receive any proposition looking toward union that may be made by the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, and report the same to the next General Conference of the Methodist Church. We also hope that the literature of both churches will be freely interchanged.

In conclusion, we trust that the Providence of God may open the way so that the now divided family of Methodism may see the practicability and duty of uniting in one body, without the loss of self-respect of either, or the sacrifice of the Scriptural convictions or conscientious scruples of any. So may the Great Head of the Church direct our minds and control our hearts.

W. H. JORDAN, *Chairman.*

DOCUMENT G.

SABBATH SCHOOLS.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

Your committee recognize the Sabbath-school cause as the child of Providence, an integral part and hope of the church. With the present organization of society, our children and youth are peculiarly exposed. Infidelity in its injurious forms and the corruptions now so common in their influence early fall upon the youth.